隣人に愛の手を

中田アキラ

BIRZ COMICS
LYNX COLLECTION
presented by
Akira Nakata

Rinjin ni Aiu no te

STOP
You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o

[Love Thy Neighbour]

by: Nakata Akira

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CASE 1

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o
Love Thy Neighbour

森の住人

隣人に愛の手を

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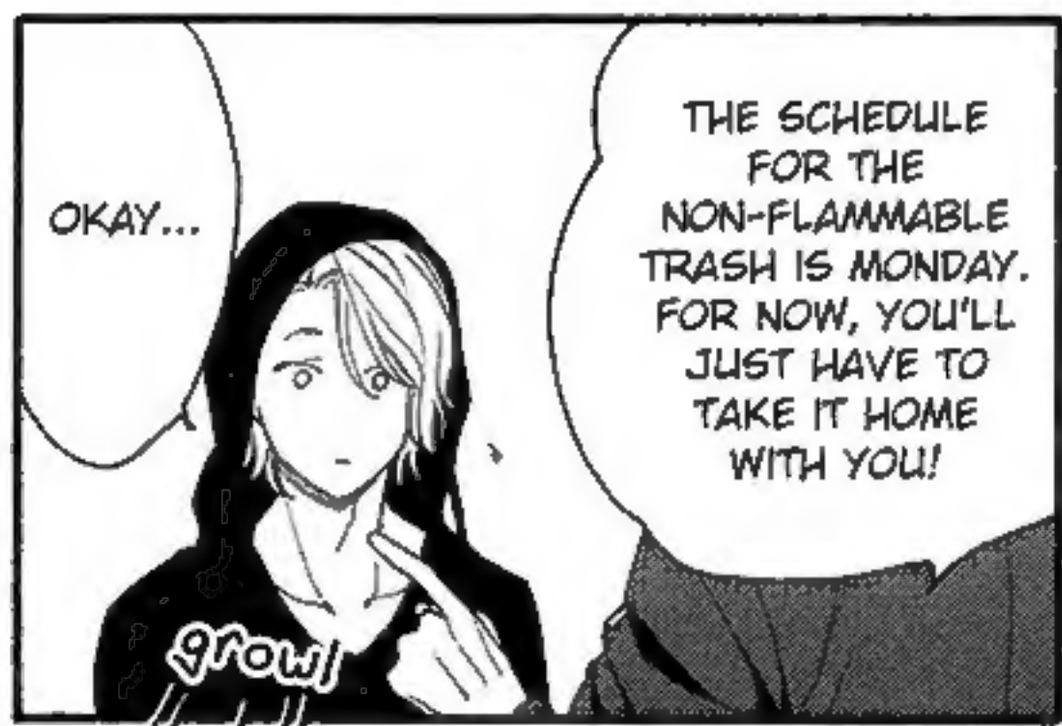
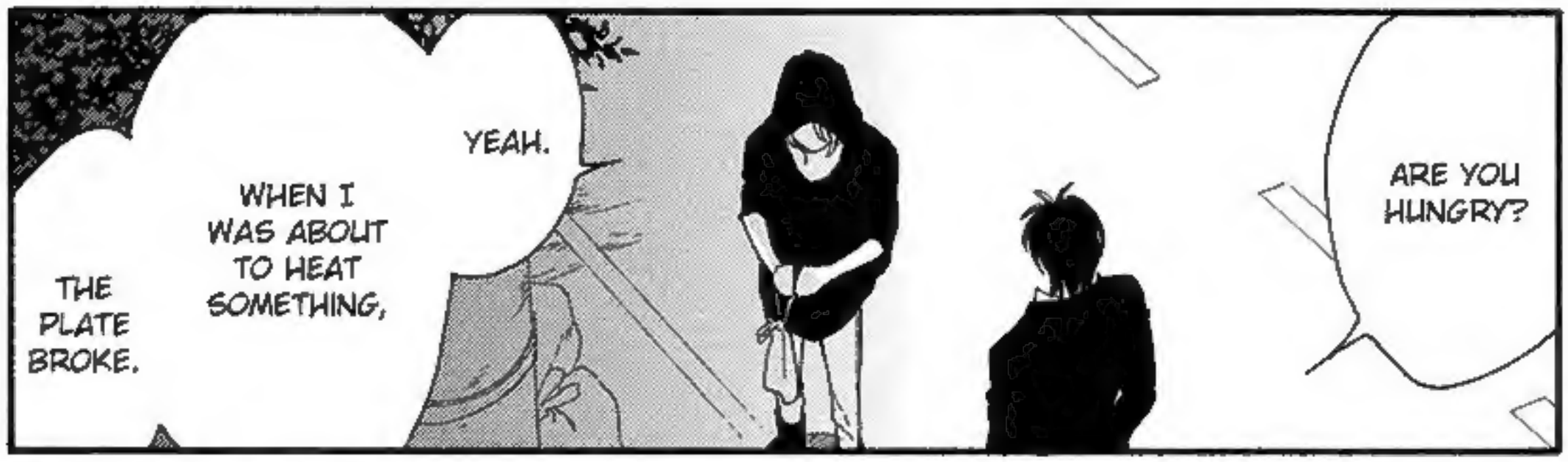
Case.1

隣人に愛の手を

clink
IT'S ALREADY MORNING, HUH.
CLATTER
BUT I'VE SOLVED THE CASE, SO IT'S ALL GOOD.
HMM?
THE NON-FLAMMABLE TRASH TIME IS TOMORROW, NOT TODAY.
HEY, YOU. WHAT DID YOU THROW JUST NOW?
FROM THE SOUND OF IT, IT'S THE NON FLAMMABLE TRASH?
...WHAT?
NON...
NON-FLAM-MABLE?


OKAY...
THE SCHEDULE FOR THE NON-FLAMMABLE TRASH IS MONDAY. FOR NOW, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE IT HOME WITH YOU!
growl

I HEARD THE CLATTERING SOUND.
OH, IT WAS A PLATE.
PLATE?
LIKE PORCE-LAIN?
Um...
I THINK SO.


ARE YOU HUNGRY?
YEAH.
WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO HEAT SOMETHING,
THE PLATE BROKE.

WHAT A BLOCK-HEAD.
HEY,

DID YOU CHECK IF IT WAS HEAT-RESISTANT?
...NO.

This door is auto-locked.

WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?

IF YOU'RE HUNGRY, JUST GO TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE.

NUMBER 604.

.....

HUH?

MY APART-MENT.

SERIOUSLY? THAT MEANS YOU'RE MY NEIGHBOUR.

I THOUGHT YOU COULD ONLY DO UNRESERVED SPEECH, BUT IT TURNED OUT YOU BOW WITH THREE FINGERS, TOO!

HA HA HA

YOU'RE VERY INTERESTING, GOJYO-SAN.

YES, AND MY NAME IS GOJYO MITSURU. NICE TO MEET YOU.

SO, YOU JUST MOVED THE DAY BEFORE YES-TERDAY?

I DIDN'T REALIZE.

I'M FUJISHIMA.

HAVE YOU FAMILIARIZED YOURSELF WITH THIS AREA?

NO, NOT YET.

YOU SHOULD AT LEAST KNOW WHERE THE CONVENIENCE STORE AND SUPERMARKET ARE.

WELL, THEN I'LL DRAW A MAP FOR YOU.

Where's my pen?

THANK YOU.

His gentle smile left a deep impression on me.

YEAH?

...FUJI-SHIMA-SAN.

That was my first encounter with Gojyo-san.

HEY, GOJYO!

Since then..

!

GOOD MORNING!

YOU'RE WEARING A HOODIE AND SUN-GLASSES AGAIN, HUH?

we often saw each other in the morning, so we became friends.

I DON'T WANT TO GET A SUNBURN.

Ha ha ha!

YOU SHOULD GET A BIT OF SUN, THOUGH.

HM?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAND?

HUH? OH.

I ACCI-DENTALLY TOUCHED THE KETTLE WHILE BOILING WATER.

stroke stroke

HE'S NOT JUST A BLOCKHEAD, HE'S CLUMSY, TOO.

nod nod

MAKE SURE YOU COOL IT DOWN, OKAY?

I'LL SEE YOU LATER.

HAVE A NICE DAY.

?.....
rustle
It's a happy time to be s·ng e
FUJI-SHIMA-KUN!
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
KOTOBUKI STATION
CRIMINAL DIVISION
T/N: Omiai = Marriage proposal or Match-making.
*O~ MI~ A~ I~♥
SHE'S A FINE LADY, YOU KNOW? AND YOU'RE 33 ALREADY. MAKE ME PROUD!
...WHAT WAS IT AGAIN?
DID YOU SLEEP ON OUR CONVERSATION THE OTHER DAY?

AT ANY RATE, JUST GO MEET HER, WILL YOU?

UHM...

WE GOT A CALL FROM THE METRO-POLITAN POLICE DEPART-MENT.

A VIOLENT INCIDENT HAS OCCURED IN SHINSEI-KU.

!

CHIEF, WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER!

O-OKAY.

flap

pat pat

BUT, I...

YOU LIVE FOR YOUR CAREER, RIGHT? I KNOW.

BUT IF YOU GET MARRIED, YOU'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

I KNOW,

LET'S GO!

FUJISHIMA-SAN!

As long as I have my career...

I don't care about marriage!

カラオケ

FWAAAH!

BASA

ALTHOUGH, IF I WERE MARRIED, THIS BEER WOULD CERTAINLY TASTE DIFFERENT. IN A GOOD WAY...

.....

I FINISHED THE JOB, TOOK A SHOWER, AND NOW A SIP OF THIS. LIFE IS PERFECT!

IF I WERE MARRIED, THIS BEER WOULDN'T TASTE THE SAME. THE TASTE OF FREEDOM!

MAR-RIAGE,

HUH...

WHAT'S THAT?

THE SOUND COMES FROM GOJYO'S APARTMENT.

clatter

clatter

CLATTER

!

!

THAT GUY...!

bang

peek

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!

HM? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

OH, FUJISHIMA-SAN.

!!

OI!

HE HELPS ME WITH CLEANING, LAUNDRY, AND STUFF.
YOU MEAN THE HELPER?
OH,
I HEARD A RUCKUS JUST NOW! WHO WAS HE?!
AND ATE TOO MUCH INSTANT NOODLES.
HE WAS ANGRY WHEN HE FOUND OUT THAT I BROKE THE PLATE
WHAT ...?
WAIT! I'M WORRIED ABOUT THAT!
AT ANY RATE, I'M GOING TO MAKE MY OWN DINNER NOW...
.....
HE WAS GOING TO MAKE ME AN OMELET RICE, BUT SOMEONE CALLED HIM, SO HE HAD TO LEAVE.
growl

I'M NOT AN EXPERT, BUT...

I'LL MAKE THAT OMELET RICE FOR YOU.

EXCUSE ME FOR INTRUDING.

HE WAS GOING TO MAKE AN OMELET RICE, INDEED.

Hot!

sizzle

IT'S READY!

clatter

clatter

YOU JUST GOT SCOLDED FOR THAT, RIGHT? SO STOP IT!

I CAN EAT INSTANT NOODLES.

WHAT? I ONLY MADE ENOUGH FOR ONE PERSON.

FUJISHIMA-SAN, LET'S EAT TOGETHER.

rustle

rustle

...WAIT FOR ME.

IT'S USELESS TO ARGUE...

.....

stare

Hooray!

We're going to have dinner together.

YES!

I WAS HAVING A DINNER-TIME DRINK, SO I'LL BRING MY BEER AND SNACK HERE.

DO YOU DRINK?

YEAH, BUT HE HAS ANOTHER JOB DURING THE DAY,

AND I SLEEP AROUND THAT TIME, TOO.

BUT, DON'T YOU THINK THE TIMING IS OFF?

TIMING?

IT'S MIDNIGHT, YOU KNOW? NORMALLY, A HELPER COMES DURING THE DAY, RIGHT?

SO, YOU SLEEP AFTER YOU THROW AWAY THE TRASH?

I'M FINE WITH THAT.

ANYWAY, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING, FUJISHIMA-SAN?

MY, YOUR LIFE CYCLE IS CONFUSING.

Huh?

DON'T YOU HAVE A JOB?

NOT AT THE MOMENT.

I'M A POLICE DETECTIVE.

Heh heh.

KEEP GOING!

AWESOME!

REALLY?! I'VE ONLY SEEN POLICE DETECTIVES ON TV!

...WAIT. TV, HE SAID?

IS THAT WHY YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ME?

WHAT?

There's not even a TV here.

...HUH?!
thump
THANK YOU.
WELL.
YEAH,
...OH,
JUST NOW...
POLICE OFFICER IS THE CITIZEN'S ALLY, RIGHT?

fuwa
fuwa
This guy!!
Ha ha ha.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE MY NEIGHBOUR, FUJISHIMA-SAN.
THAT'S NOT ALL, THOUGH!
I JUST CAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE, SOMEHOW...
GULP
ACK.
He looks so cute when he smiles, dammit!

HOW NICE.

pat

YOUR MUSCLES.

YOU ALWAYS WEAR SHIRTS, SO I NEVER NOTICED IT.

WHAT IS IT?

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU ONLY EAT NOODLES! TRY EATING CHICKEN FOR A CHANGE!

YEAH. NO MATTER HOW MUCH I EAT, I CAN'T SEEM TO ADD ANOTHER POUND OF MEAT.

OH...

YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE THIN, HUH?

The yakitori!

I LOVE IT!

DO YOU LIKE IT?

You bought some, too, the other day.

...DIDN'T I TELL YOU? OH, WELL. I DON'T REALLY REALIZE IT, EITHER.

WILL THAT HELP?

gasp

ANYWAY, YOU TOUCH TOO MUCH. IF YOU WANT TO TOUCH SOMEONE, TOUCH A WOMAN INSTEAD.

YOU'RE VERY BLUNT, HUH...?

pat pat pat

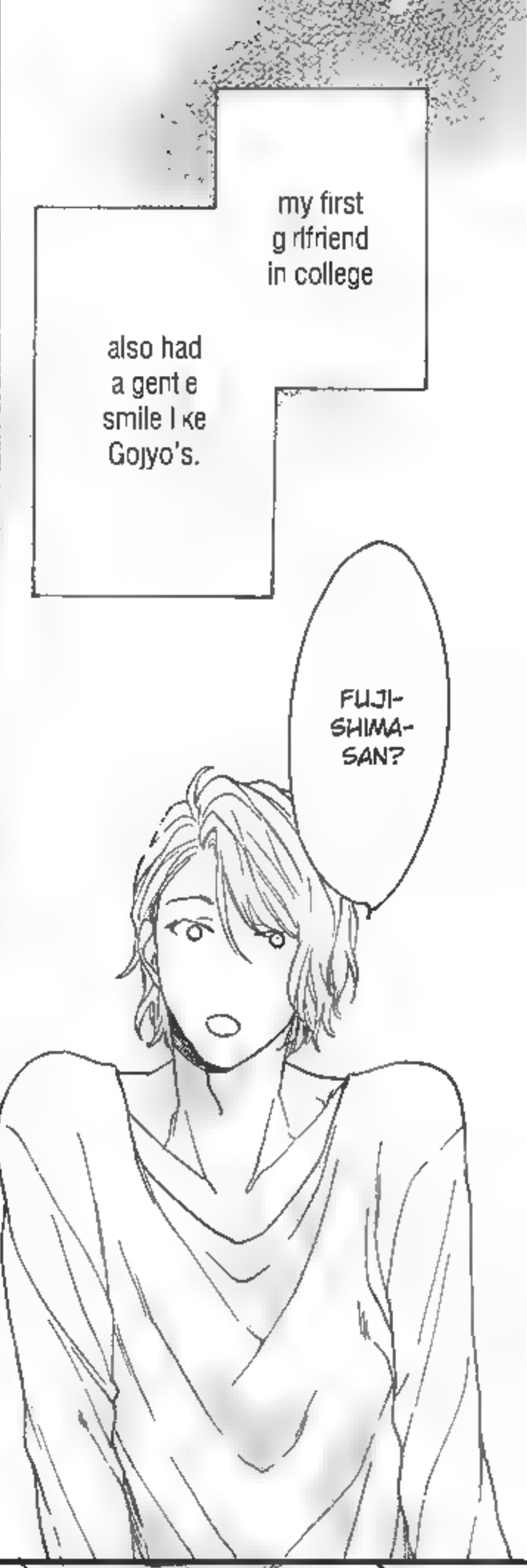
SO, THESE MUSCLES EXIST THANKS TO THE YAKITORI, HUH?

I DON'T THINK I CAN DO THIS TO A WOMAN...

...A WOMAN...

YEAH, I THINK I DO HATE THEM.
UHM...
DO YOU HATE WOMEN?
HMM.
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY SISTER?
ARE YOU AN ONLY CHILD?
peek
NOPE, BUT I HAVE A YOUNGER BROTHER.
HALF?
HM...
HALF BROTHER, THAT IS.
Come to think of it...

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
.....


my first g rlfriend in college
also had a gent e smile l ke Gojyo's.
FUJI-SHIMA-SAN?

I JUST GULPED DOWN MY DRINK.
...NO.
I THINK I'M DRUNK.

...OKAY.
I HAVE TO WORK TOMORROW.
IT'S ONE O'CLOCK ALREADY... SO I'M GOING HOME, THEN.

clench

ARE YOU DRUNK, TOO?

...MAYBE.

.....

I WAS ONLY GOING FOR A CAN, BUT...

haa

...YEAH.

pat

WELL, THEN, WHY DON'T YOU GET SOME SLEEP TONIGHT?

TOMORROW IS NOT A TRASH DAY, AFTER ALL.

MAYBE I SHOULD GO TO A SEX PRO-VIDER...

Am I that desperate?

Should I consider getting married?

Did I just compare my neighbour to an ex-girlfriend?

WHAT?!
YOU'RE...
PUBLIC PHONE ...?
YES? FUJISHIMA SPEAKING.
chatter
WELL, I WASN'T ABLE TO CALL YOU THEN!
YOU SHOULD'VE CALLED ME AS SOON AS YOU WERE RELEASED FROM PRISON. YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO KNOW EVERYTHING, RIGHT?
IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS, HUH?!
chatter

This guy was a criminal I arrested before

I'M HAPPY FOR YOU.

ANYWAY, IT WAS ALL THANKS TO YOU THAT I COULD START OVER!

SO, WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

NOW THAT I'VE CLEANED UP MY ACT, I REALLY WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

SO, YOU'RE HIS TRAINING PARTNER, HUH?

YES, YES.

chatter

chatter

OH, YOU MEAN AKINO-SAN?

IT'S HIS STUDENT, MIURA-SAN.

DO YOU REMEMBER? BEFORE YOU ARRESTED ME, YOU TOOK ME TO A BAR AND INTRODUCED ME TO THE OWNER. THE GARDENER IS RELATED TO THE BAR OWNER.

I'M A GAR-DENER APPREN-TICE.

I have to cheer him on.
The guy I arrested in the past is doing his best to ve properly now
This is the happiest time for being a police detective
I SEE. ANYWAY, I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON YOU, SO DON'T GET INTO MISCHIEF.
WHERE DO YOU LIVE NOW?
IF I DO, MY BOSS WOULD SCOLD ME BEFORE YOU DO.
I WON'T!
MACHI-ZONO.
Ha ha ha!

THE FACT THAT I CARE ABOUT GOJYO NOW IS SIMILAR TO THIS CASE.

SMOKING

He always seems to be in danger. If I'm not around, what'll happen to him?

I'm worried

I think he's the older one, but...

I'm really curious about it.

Come to think of it, I think he mentioned that he had a younger brother.

I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER, THOUGH.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE A DESIRE TO PROTECT HIM.
SMOKING
...
.....
He's so buoyant...
radiant...
and cute...
screech

Kya!

NO WAY, AN ACCIDENT?! CALL 119...

I'M SURE SOMEONE ALREADY CALLED.

WHAT ABOUT THE POLICE?

I KNOW SOMEONE AROUND THIS AREA.

LET'S GIVE HIM A CALL.

screech

My detective intuition

is cal ng.

rustle

rustle

HURRY AND HOP IN!

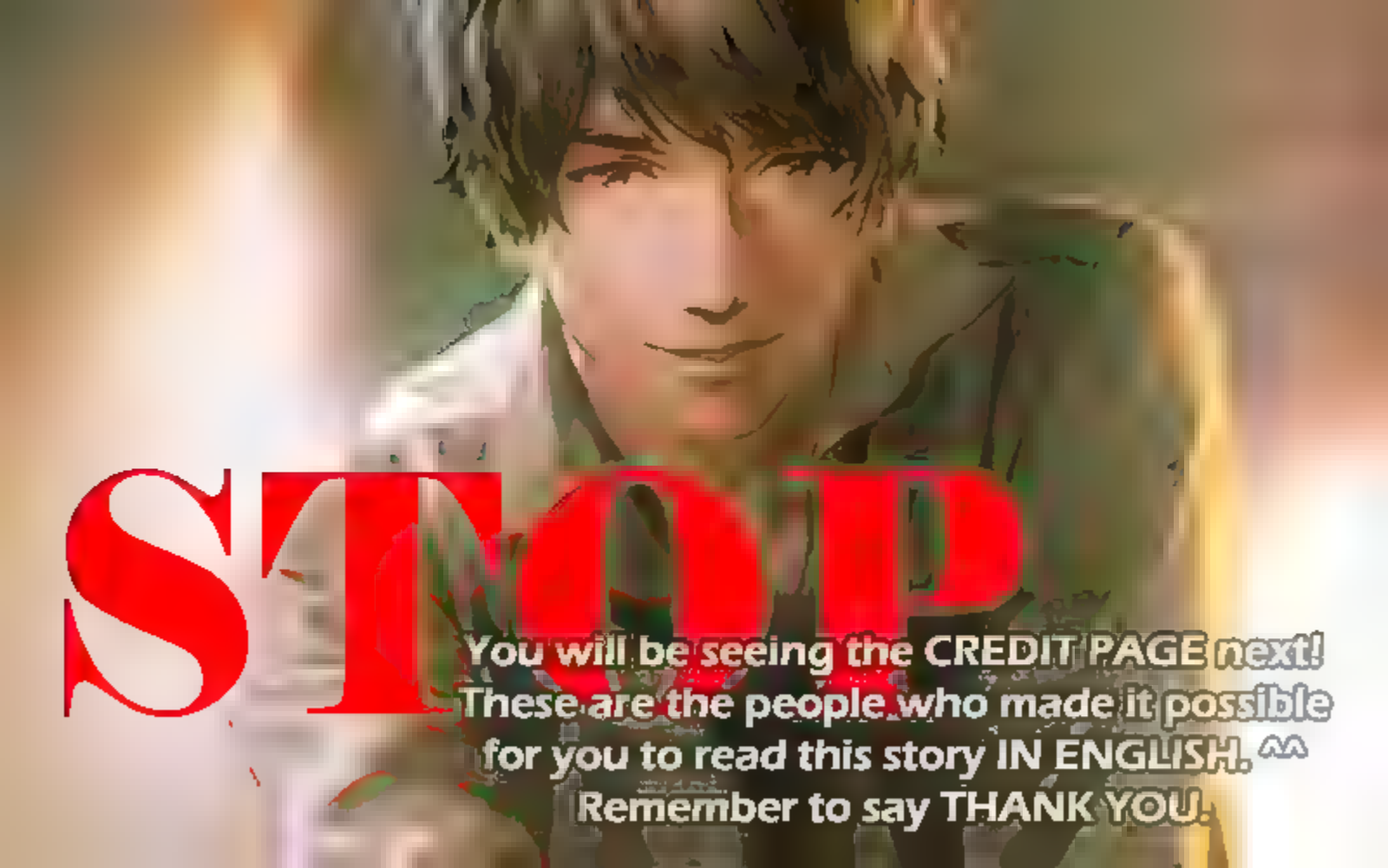
...IS IT A KIDNAP-PING?!

I KNOW!

IF SOMEONE FINDS OUT, WE'LL BE IN TROUBLE!

HURRY!

Gojyo!!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Remember to say THANK YOU.

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o

[Gentle Hands of Love]

CASE 2

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Case.2
Rinjin Ni Ai Ho Te o
Love Thy Neighbour

SPEAKING OF THE MAN IN BLACK...
IT WAS GOJYO WHO WAS BEING PUSHED INTO THE CAR, RIGHT?!

FUJISHIMA-SAN.
?!
Yeah nght! What servant is tense like that?!
SHIT!
I HAVE TO GET A TAXI.
...I WONDER IF I'LL MAKE IT ON TIME.
OH.

WERE'N'T YOU KIDNAPPED
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
GOJYO!
A-ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!
JUST NOW...?
IN-DEED.
WAS I MISTAKEN ...? NO, IT CAN'T BE...
NO.

Fuji-shima-san.

DON'T MOVE!

ANYWAY, YOU STAY THERE!

OH, NO.

FUJISHIMA-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WORKING?

It was a plain traffic accident. No one was injured, either.

HOW WAS IT?

YEAH.

Thank you for the notification.

SO, THIS INCIDENT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...

NO...

Is something the matter?

NO, THE DRIVER JUST MADE A STEERRING MISTAKE.

chatter

chatter

So, it was not a crime?

BY THE WAY, WHAT WERE YOU DOING HERE?
HUH?
OH, I WAS SHOP-PING.
Thank you for waiting.
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING.
look around
AND I WAS SO SURE THAT IT WAS MY INTUITION AS A DE-TECTIVE...
Which means, it just looked like kidnapping, but it wasn't...?
I SEE.
I CAN'T LEAVE HIM ALONE FOR NOW.
WELL, IF YOU HAVEN'T FINISHED YET, I'LL KEEP YOU COMPANY.
WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO BUY?
A TABLE!

WHY DO I HAVE TO CHOOSE FOR YOU?
WHICH ONE IS THE BEST?
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO BUY ONE.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO EAT ON THE FLOOR LIKE THE OTHER DAY.
PERSONALLY, I DON'T NEED A TABLE, BUT MY GUEST DOES.
Center Table
Center Table
Living Room Corner
OPEN UNTIL 1 AM
WE'RE GOING TO USE IT TOGETHER?
BECAUSE...
.....

I HAVE CUSHIONS TO SIT ON, AFTER ALL.
I THINK I PREFER A LOW TABLE.
shock
!!
SAY THAT ON PURPOSE...?
DID YOU
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, FUJI-SHIMA-SAN?
WHICH COLOR?
OH, I THINK THAT ONE IS GOOD.
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS ONE?
HE'S TOO INNOCENT.
75×100
Center Table
TABLE(R
It's a good size, too.

THE NATURAL ONE.
IT SUITS HIM.
OKAY, I'LL GET THIS ONE!
Center Table [Natural S]
Center Table [Natural S]
HEY, HEY, WAIT! I'LL CALL THE SHOP ASSISTANT.
SHOP ASSIST-ANT?
THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING AND DELIVER THE TABLE TO YOUR HOME.
?
OR...
DID YOU COME HERE BY CAR?
Do you even have a car?
?
BUT I DON'T REMEMBER MY ADDRESS.
How are they going to deliver it?
OH,
I SEE.
I'LL GO HOME BY TRAIN!

UM...
I THINK TIMEWISE, IT'S OKAY NOW.

DON'T WORRY, I REMEMBER IT. WE'RE NEIGHBORS, AFTER ALL.
THAT'S RIGHT!
flash
DO YOU WANT TO BUY ANY-THING ELSE?

TIME-WISE?
SALE
¥2,980
OH!
UM,
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
¥1,980
¥2

What's this?! It's so soft!

WHAT'S THE DIF-FERENCE ...?
WHOA!

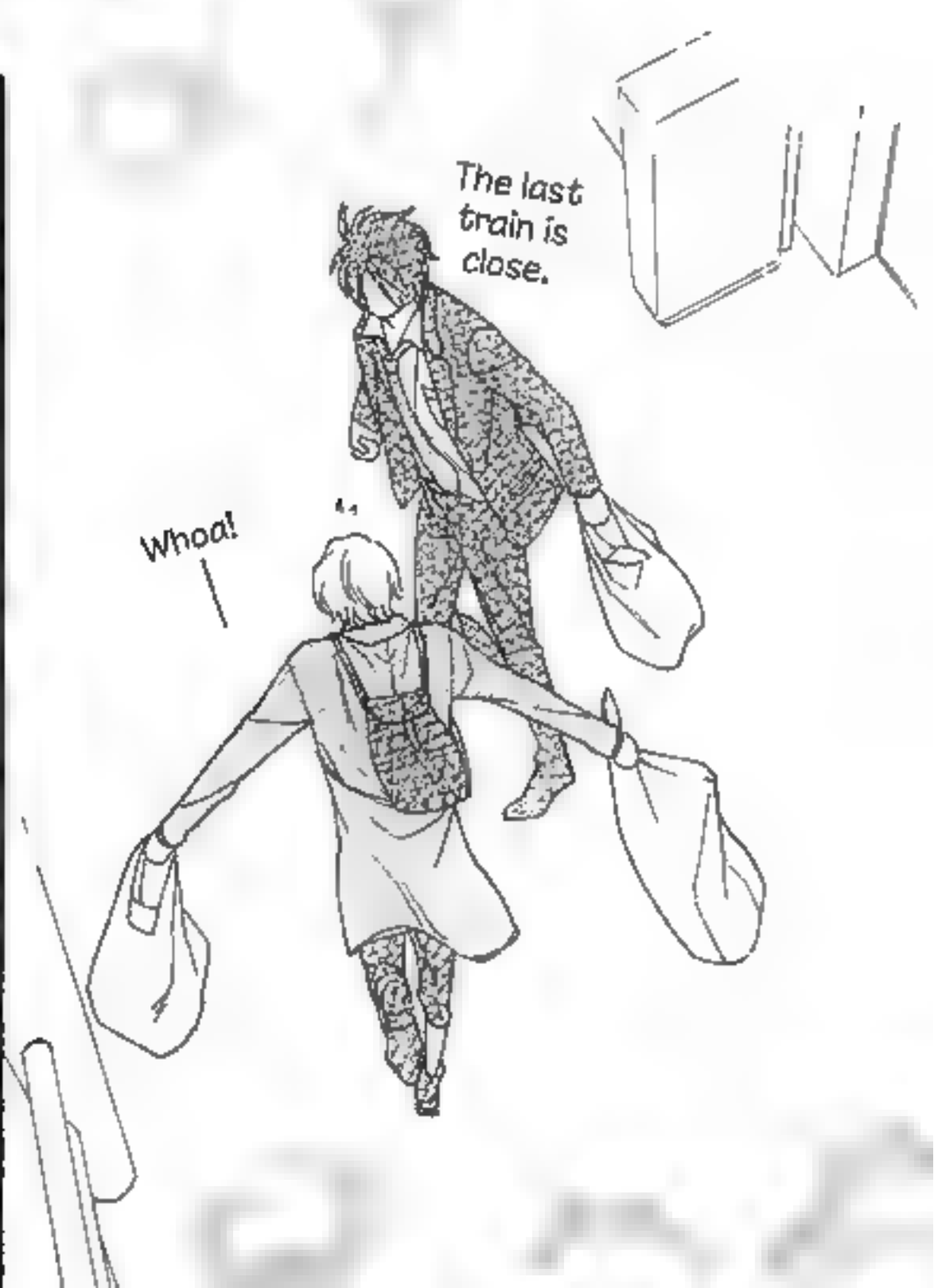
DON'T YOU HAVE PLENTY AT HOME?
A BEAN BAG!
MINE IS COTTON-FILLED.

Oh! A giant gum!
GUM
DRIED SQUID QUARTET

YEAH, IT'S LIGHT.
This is good!
I THINK I CAN CARRY THIS ONE HOME TODAY.
WELL, THEN, I'LL BUY IT.

Do you have enough?

squeeze
AREN'T YOU GLAD THAT WE ASKED THEM TO DELIVER THE TABLE?
YUP.
squeeze
rattle
rattle


The last train is close.
Whoa!

Ugh
UGH.
wobble
ARE YOU OKAY?
YEAH, I'M JUST A LITTLE DRUNK...
AND THIS CROWD MAKES ME DIZZY.
I'LL LEND YOU MY SHOULDER.

I DON'T MIND,
BUT...
rattle
HUH?
rattle
DO YOU WANT TO USE THIS CUSHION?
I WONDER IF IT'S OKAY TO OPEN IT HERE.
smile
!
Dunk

It hap-
pened
again
My heart
sk pped
a beat.
This
.s
DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
THAT.
DON'T
LET ME
FALL,
OKAY?
BESIDES,
IT'LL BE
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR YOU
TO FALL.
YOU'VE
GOT
A POINT.
It's so
crowded
in here.
not bad
at a l
HOW
ARE YOU
FEELING
NOW?

HEH.
crushe
OKAY!
ALSO, FUJISHIMA-SAN, THIS IS FOR YOU.
BY THE WAY, THE TABLE IS GOING TO ARRIVE TOMORROW, SO DON'T FORGET.
FINE.
I WAS COMPLETELY RECOVERED AS WE WALKED. SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.
THANK YOU FOR TODAY.
YOU LIKE IT SO MUCH, SO CONSIDER THIS
MY EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE.
Oh!
ONE MORE THING.
WELL, THEN...
ARE YOU SURE?
IT'S OKAY, JUST TAKE IT.
A BIG DEAL...
IT WAS NOT
HUH ...?

ONCE THE TABLE HAS ARRIVED, LET'S EAT TOGETHER AGAIN.

GOOD NIGHT.

creak

OKAY.

To be honest, I'm quite happy myself.

Now that I take a closer look at it, it reminds me of a sunny-side up.

IT'S SO SOFT.

By the way, an item is something that is reminiscent of the person himself, right?

It's been a while since I received something from someone

I thought I'd be able to see the table I chose soon...

But...

I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING FROM HIS ROOM, EITHER. DID HE START WORKING ALREADY?

click click

I SHOULD'VE ASKED FOR HIS PHONE NUMBER...

.....

CRIMINAL DIVISION

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR ALMOST A WEEK.

Am I feeling lonely because he's not around?

I NEED TO FOCUS ON MY WORK!

thunk

HOW EMBAR-RASSING.

But I'm worried about Gojyo and that incident from the other day...

NEWS

IT WAS EXACTLY AS YOU SAID, FUJISHIMA-SAN.

THE CASE FROM THE OTHER DAY?

POLICE BOX 交番

AT ANY RATE, IT WAS NOT A KIDNAPPING CASE.

MATSU-ZAWA?

THE ONE THAT OWNS REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE COMPANIES?

That's the one

The only interesting thing about that case was that

the venic.e belonged to Matsuzawa.

REALLY?

However, there was no problem in particular
INDEED.
and as for the damage the Matsuzawa Group is in the process of discussing it
To be honest, I think they closed the case secretly.
SERI-OUSLY?
.....
NOW THAT I WATCH IT CAREFULLY, THEY APPEAR IN COMMER-CIALS, TOO.
Please come to Matsuzawa Housing for consultation

silence

rustle

He's not home again today..

clatter

!

tap

tap

clatter

.....

He's there!

thud

creak

thud

...!

GOJYO!

bang

bang

bang

WAIT-

GOJYO!

IT'S ME, FUJISHIMA!

.....

OH,

HEY!

THE TABLE!

DID THEY DELIVER IT TO YOU-

clack

bang

Just because he avoided me

I

got so shocked?

I AM WORRIED BECAUSE I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR A WHILE!

WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY?

I'm away

.....

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?

SO, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BOUGHT THE TABLE?!

Urrgh——

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?!

HE'S NOT GOJYO.

……!?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

I SEE. SO, IT WAS YOU THAT DAY, HUH?

shake shake

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

grab

WHA-

But he looks exactly like him!

WHERE'S GOJYO?!

I'M HERE,

BUT IF YOU SHOUT, YOU'RE JUST GOING TO DISTURB THE NEIGHBORS, FUJISHIMA-SAN.

SORRY, SORRY, BUT I BOUGHT YOU SOME ICE CREAM, RYUSE!.

YOU'RE LATE!

YOU WANTED IT, RIGHT?

FORGET ABOUT THAT!

FUJISHIMA-SAN,

GO-

SLAM

...HMPH!

UWAH!

MITSURU!

!!
THIS GUY...
I'M SORRY.
NOW, APOLO-GIZE!
LOOK AT YOUR SUR-ROUNDINGS BEFORE YOU OPEN THE DOOR!
.....
LET ME INTRODUCE HIM TO YOU.
THIS IS MY LITTLE BROTHER, RYUSEI.

THAT'S VERY MISLEADING!

BUT, SINCE WE LOOK ALIKE, WE DECIDED TO HAVE A SIMILAR HAIRSTYLE AS WELL.

HEY!

DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS TO A STRANGER!

I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WERE TWINS.

Hahaha.

NO WAY. I TOLD YOU THAT I HAD A HALF BROTHER BEFORE, RIGHT?

OH.

I'LL MAKE YOU GUYS SOME COFFEE.

WHY IS HE BEING SO HOSTILE?

pour pour

Ice coffee

HEY, HEY, HEY!

.....

.....

MITSURU! YOU USE THIS POT TO BOIL WATER, NOT COFFEE!

AFTER THE WATER IS BOILING, YOU THEN POUR THIS INSTANT COFFEE INTO IT!

Ice coffee

INSTANT COFFEE

thunk

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

I'M GOING TO BOIL THE COFFEE...

BOIL ...?

WHAT?!

BOIL THE WATER?

SO, WE NEED WATER, HUH?

HUH?

NO, WAIT...

WAIT FOR ME. I'LL BUY SOME FROM THE VENDING MACHINE DOWNSTAIRS.

.....

YOU CAN LEAVE NOW.

bang

SCOFF

YOU MADE IT SOUND LIKE IT WAS A BIG DEAL.

KIDNAP-PING?!

THANK GOODNESS IT WASN'T A KIDNAPPING CASE.

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS BEING PUSHED INTO THE CAR THE OTHER DAY, WEREN'T YOU?

I THOUGHT OF LEAVING, TOO, BUT...

I WANTED TO TALK TO GOJYO,

AND YOU...!

THEY WERE MY BODY-GUARDS, YOU KNOW.

twitch

SO, YOU CARE ABOUT MITSURU BECAUSE OF YOUR JOB?

FUJI-SHIMA-SAN, YOU'RE MITSURU'S NEIGHBOR, THE DETECTIVE, HUH?

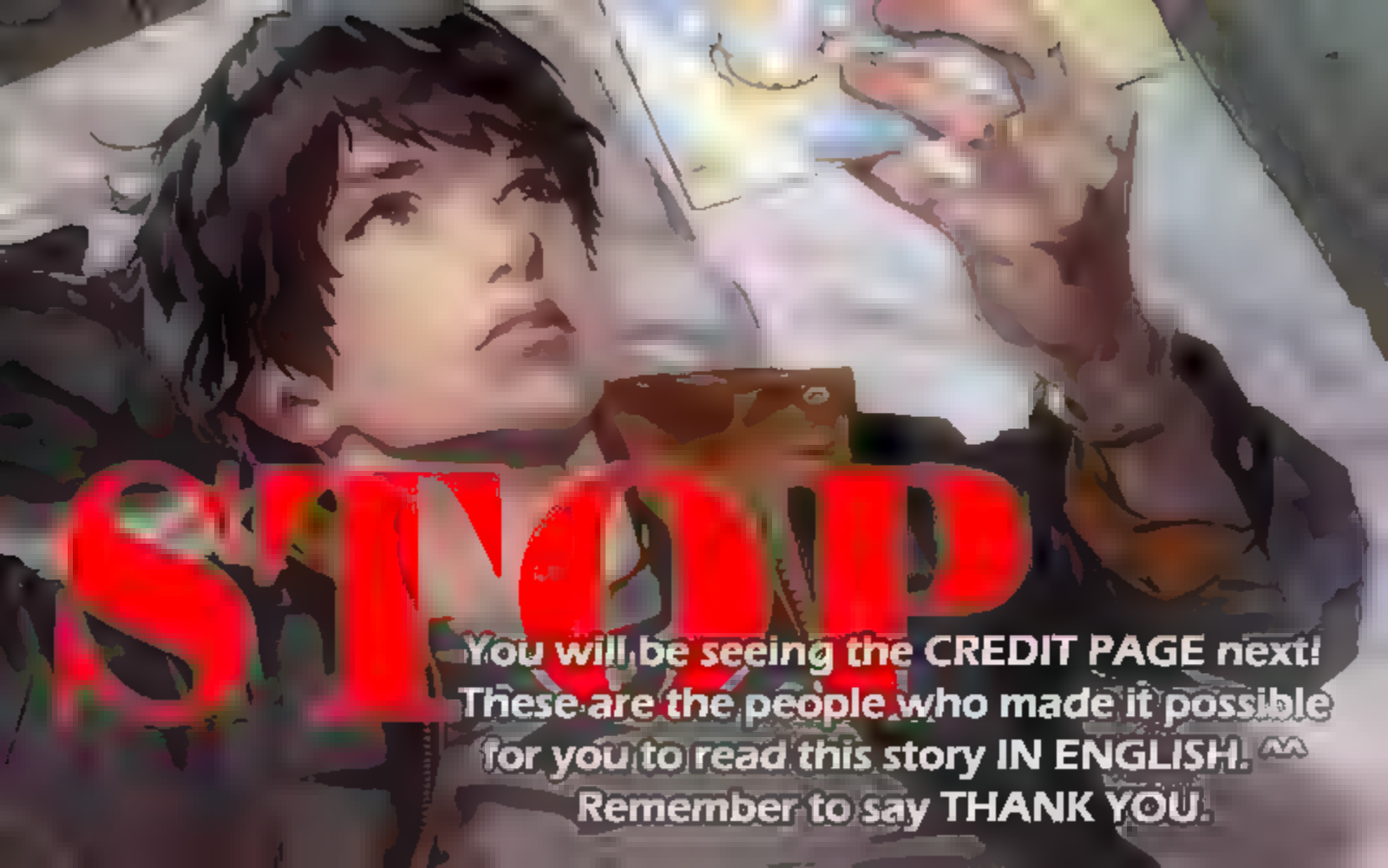
WHY?

UM, BE-CAUSE IT'S MY JOB, I SUP-POSE?

I HAD A FEELING ABOUT IT, BUT...

SO, YOU KNEW, EH?

this guy loves his brother too much, huh?


STOP
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These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o

[Guardian Angel]

CASE 3

Shinmakoku*

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Case.3
Kaijin ni Ai wo To o
Love Thy Neighbour

"SO, YOU CARE FOR MITSURU BECAUSE OF YOUR JOB?"

ABOUT GOJYO...

HOW TO EXPLAIN IT...?

"KIDNAPPING?! THEY WERE MY BODYGUARDS!"

"WHY DO YOU CARE, ANYWAY?"

um

"BECAUSE OF MY JOB, I SUPPOSE?"

!

Clang

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!

!

MITSURU!

SOMEONE JUST FELL FROM HIS BICYCLE.

Hot!

Hot!

Hot!

I THOUGHT I'D BUY SOME WATER, BUT I BOUGHT THESE INSTEAD.

WELL, THAT'S HOT COFFEE ALRIGHT.

Hot!

HUH?

AND I BOUGHT SOME COFFEE.

ARE YOU HURT ANYWHERE?!

NO, I'M FINE,

HE'S GONE NOW.

tsk
AND LITTLE BROTHER,
I'LL TAKE IT.
I BOUGHT COFFEE FOR FUJISHIMA-SAN, TOO.
RYUSEI!
WELL, FUJISHIMA-SAN, BYE!
LET'S GO IN.
I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED, BUT WE STILL NEED TO TALK.
snap
HE REALLY IS SUSPICIOUS! I'M SURE SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED.
WE SHOULD'VE BOUGHT A RUG, TOO.
This time, my intuition as a detective won't fail me again.

RYUSEI,
YOU LOOK SCARY.
IT'S OKAY, THE FEET ARE SOFT
YEAH, WITHOUT A RUG, THE TABLE MIGHT SCRATCH THE FLOOR.
A RUG? YOU MEAN THE ONE THAT WE PUT ON THE FLOOR?
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO GET INVOLVED WITH THIS OLD MAN TO BEGIN WITH, ANYWAY?!
FUJISHIMA-SAN IS NOT A STRANGER. HE'S A DETECTIVE.
AND HE'S BEEN KIND TO ME. WE CAN TRUST HIM.

I CAN SEE THAT HE DOESN'T LIKE IT WHEN THE BROTHER HE LOVES PAYS ATTENTION TO A STRANGER.

ANYWAY,

LITTLE BROTHER, I KNOW WE JUST MET, BUT...

snap

I THINK YOU WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT GOJYO.

I MAY LOOK LIKE THIS, BUT I'M STILL A DETECTIVE, YOU KNOW.

cough

SO COOL ...

oho

DON'T LOOK SO HAPPY!!

Kya!

YOU HAVE A SOCIAL STANDING AND YOU WON'T DO ANYTHING FOOLISH.

BUT, AS A DETECTIVE, I SUPPOSE

I'LL TELL YOU MORE ABOUT US.

FIRST...

pssh

OUR FATHER IS THE THIRD GENERATION PRESIDENT OF THE MATSUZAWA COMPANY.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF MATSUZAWA? WE'RE ONE OF THE RICHEST FAMILIES IN JAPAN.

What? chatter

Wait...

IF YOU DON'T KNOW US, IT CAN'T BE HELPED, BUT THE BOTTOM LINE IS, WE HAVE BOTH MONEY AND THE AUTHORITY,

chatter

AND I'M THE HEIR OF THE FAMILY.

Um...

chatter

.....

HUH...?

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY,

WHAT...?!

BUT MITSURU IS STILL MY OLDER BROTHER.

No that's not it.

TO BE EXACT,

IT'S EITHER ME OR MITSU-RU,

BUT...

THE PROBLEM IS, WHETHER THE HEIR SHOULD BE FROM THE REAL WIFE OR THE AFFAIR.

AT FIRST, MY FATHER PLANNED TO GIVE THE INHERITANCE TO ME, THE SON OF HIS REAL WIFE,

BUT SINCE THE SURROUNDINGS SAID VARIOUS THINGS, OUR FAMILY HAS BEEN DIVIDED INTO TWO NOW. SOME CHOOSE ME AS THE HEIR OF THE FAMILY, BUT SOME OTHERS CHOOSE MITSURU INSTEAD.

SO, THAT REALLY WAS...

ISN'T IT MORE DANGEROUS FOR HIM TO LIVE OUTSIDE?

"THE VEHICLE BELONGS TO MATSUZAWA."

HUH?

RYUSEI ...

"THEY WERE MY BODY-GUARDS."

IT'S NOT THAT MITSURU WAS PARTI-CULARLY IN DANGER, BUT TO BE SAFE,

WE ASKED HIM TO LIVE SOMEWHERE AND RENTED HIM THIS APARTMENT.

tuk tuk

IT'S BETTER FOR HIM TO LIVE OUTSIDE!

IF HE LIVED IN MATSUZAWA HOUSE, HE WOULD BE SURROUNDED AND PROTECTED BY THEM, RIGHT?

I'M TALKING ABOUT THE MEN IN BLACK.

WHAT?

Hmph!

I'VE DECIDED!

RYUSEI,

I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ME.

AS A STRANGER, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM, ANYWAY?!

SORRY.

pat pat

.....

MITSU-RU...

BUT I DON'T WANT YOU TO LOOK DOWN ON FUJISHIMA-SAN.

WE HAVE OUR OWN BODY-GUARDS.

BESIDES, I DON'T WANT THE POLICE TO INTERFERE AND CAUSE CONFLICT.

ANY-WAY,

WHY DON'T YOU DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE POLICE AND ASK THEM FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION?

WELL THEN, CAN'T YOU AT LEAST INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HIS SERVANTS?

I SEE.

I MEAN, THE BODY-GUARDS YOU MENTIONED EARLIER.

THEY CAN ALSO MAKE ME DINNER.

SO, IT WAS YOUR FAULT, HUH?

YOU SHOULDN'T USE THEM MORE THAN NECESSARY, OR THEY'LL STAND OUT.

WHY CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING BY YOURSELF?!

Pissed

I KNOW I'M A DETECTIVE, BUT I'M NOT RELATED TO ANY BIG COMPANIES!

IN THAT CASE, I'LL PROTECT GOJYO MYSELF!

ALSO, I MAY NOT BE THE SMARTEST PEOPLE AROUND, BUT I'M PRETTY STRONG, AND I'M FAST, TOO!

Why?

WHY DO YOU GO THAT FAR FOR YOUR NEIGHBOUR?

IT'S BECAUSE HE'S MY NEIGH-BOUR THAT I CARE ABOUT HIM!

WE'VE BECOME FRIENDS, AND I'VE ALSO HEARD ABOUT HIS SITUATION...

HOW CAN I TURN MY BACK ON HIM NOW?

.....

What's with that excuse?

Who..

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A COMPANY GATHERING SOON...

AND YOU'RE INVITED, FUJISHIMA.

WE SENT OUT INVITATIONS TO POLICE OFFICERS, TOO.
NO, NO, I'VE GOT WORK TO DO...
And I don't have a proper suit to wear.
YOU CAN EITHER BLEND WITH THEM OR PRETEND THAT YOU'RE PART OF THE SECURITY GUARDS.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
IF YOU'RE SERIOUS, YOU HAVE TO AT LEAST SEE HOW A BIG COMPANY REALLY IS.
GATHERING?! WHY ME...?
FUJISHIMA-SAN, I'D LOVE YOU TO COME TO THE PARTY!
UGH...
throb
?!

sting
sting
sting
sting
sting
sting

WHOA...

glance

I'M NOT USED TO PARTYING. IT'S BORING.

YES!

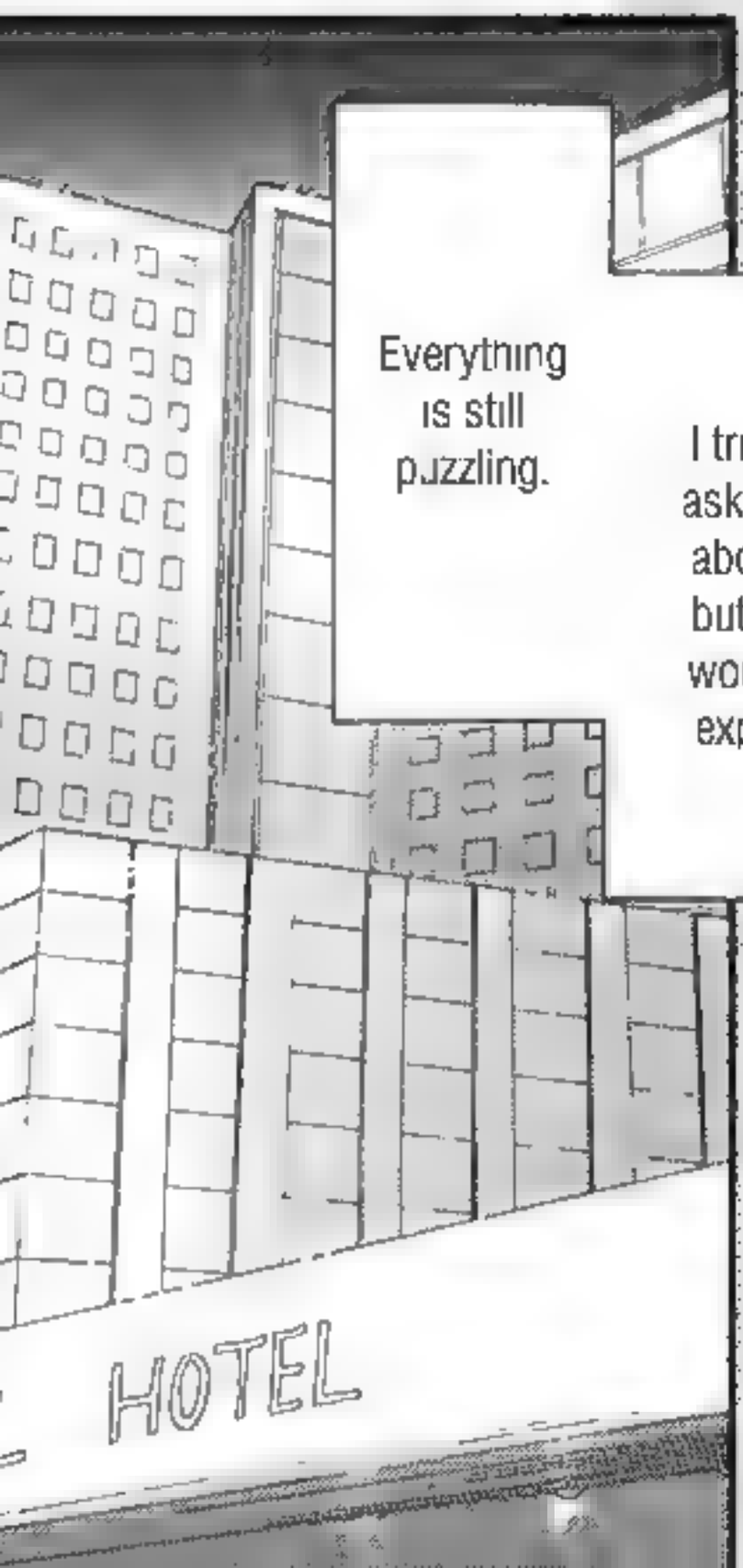
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

The progress was rather quick, but it was convenient

EEEEEK!!

They want you to come to a company gathering.

Fujishima-kun, we've got an invitation from the central office.



Everything is still puzzling.

I tried to ask them about it, but they wouldn't explain.

"AS A STRANGER, WHAT DO YOU KNOW, ANYWAY?"

And it was not a coincidence that Gojyo was also there.

If that incident targeted the little brother, it was possible that someone has covered up the life-threatening incident.

"I AM SHOPPING."

Fujishima-sama's waiting room
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IT'S PERFECT!
RENTAL
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT IT'S WEIRD TO SEE YOU WITHOUT A BEARD.
BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THAT GOJYO IS A PART OF MATSU-ZAWA...
I'll take that.
Thank you.

OH, LITTLE BROTHER.
YOU'VE CHANGED, TOO.
FUJISHIMA!
ARE YOU CHANGED?
Kachack
HIS FAMILY NAME IS DIFFERENT, BECAUSE HE'S THE SON OF THE AFFAIR, HUH?
UNCLE?
I JUST WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY UNCLE.
LEAVE ME ALONE.
NICE TO MEET YOU, I'M MATSUZAWA SHOICHIRO.
I MANAGE A NUMBER OF OUR COMPANIES.
THE CHAIRMAN WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THE PARTY HALL, SO HE CAN'T COME HERE.

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE TOO FORMAL.

JUST EAT, DRINK, AND ENJOY THE PARTY.

SEE YOU, THEN.

IT SEEMS THAT MITSURU HAS BEEN UNDER YOUR CARE.

N-NO, IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.

Ha ha ha.

OH, N-NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M FUJISHIMA KENGO.

YOU'RE MY TEACHER.

WHAT DID YOU TELL HIM ABOUT ME?

thinking

thinking

IT WAS TOO SUDDEN.

sigh

Shuff

I'M SERVANT A.

A-SAN?

THAT KIND OF A, HUH?!

Pfff

I HAVE TO GO, TOO.

A-SAN, PLEASE KEEP FUJISHIMA-SAN COMPANY.

WHAT ?

chatter
chatter
THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER DAY.
HUH?
ANYWAY, WE NEED TO GO NOW.
THAT'S THE FATHER, HUH?
AND THIS IS WHAT HE REFERRED TO AS BEING DIVIDED...
chatter
chatter

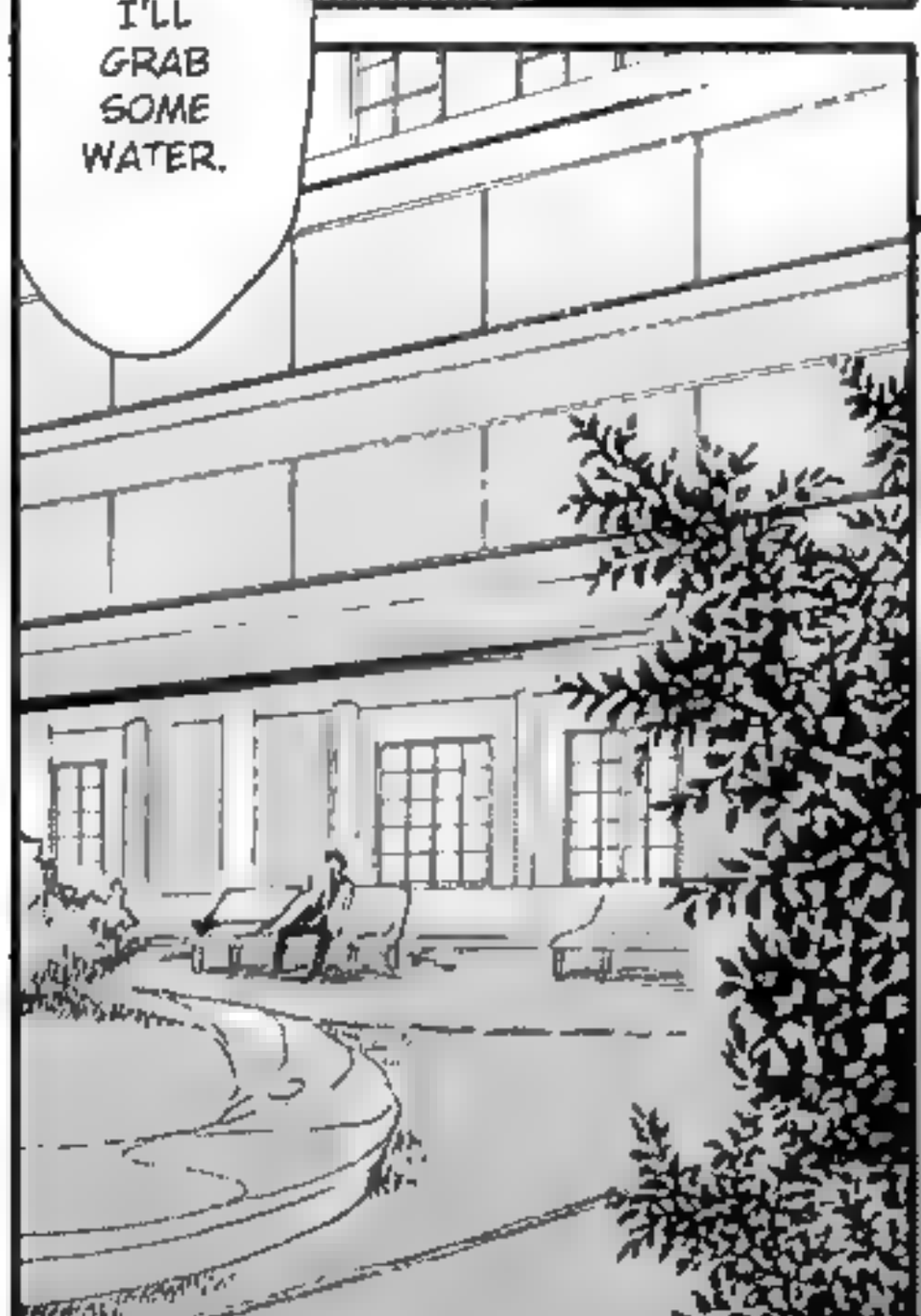
HUH?!

turn
HUH?

IT MUST NOT HAVE BEEN EASY FOR THEM, EITHER.

Mitsumu-san, what's wrong?
chatter
chatter
PLEASE GET SOME FRESH AIR OUTSIDE.

WHAT'S WRONG?
I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD...


I'LL GRAB SOME WATER.

THIS REMINDS ME OF THE TRAIN, BUT THIS TIME, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO LENDS ME YOUR SHOULDER.

Ha ha, ha

I UNDER-STAND THAT.

Me, neither.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

BUT I CAN'T DRINK WINE OR CHAMPAGNE...

I CAN DRINK BEER,

DIDN'T YOU DRINK BEER THE OTHER DAY?!

FUJISHIMA-SAN,

I WANT TO GO SHOPPING WITH YOU AGAIN.

SURE.

BY THE WAY, GIVE ME YOUR PHONE NUMBER.

PHONE NUM-BER?

AH——

NO...

IT'S OKAY, I DON'T NEED IT.

YOU CAN HAVE A-SAN'S NUMBER, THOUGH.

WHAT?!

I DON'T HAVE A PHONE.

What's the point of having his number, anyway?

IF?

WELL THEN, I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I EVER BUY ONE.

YUP. RYUSEI DOESN'T LET ME HAVE ONE.

YEAH,

HE'S GOT A FOUL MOUTH, BUT HE'S A GOOD KID.

HE JUST DOESN'T HAVE THE POWER YET.

.....

HEY,

HONEST-LY...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR LITTLE BROTHER.

WAS BECAUSE HE...

I'M SURE THE REASON HE INVITED YOU TODAY

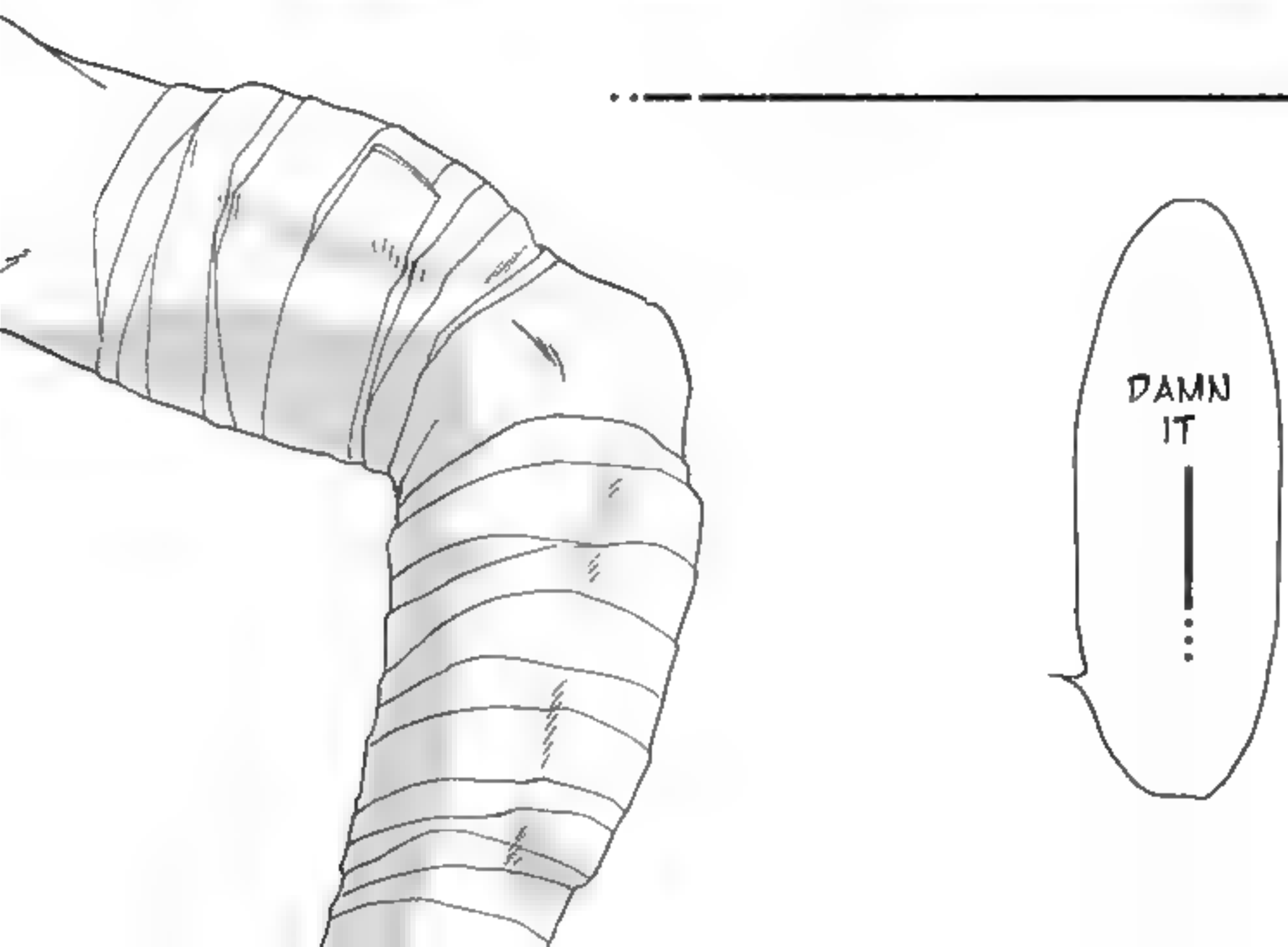
rustle

WHAT...
FUJI-SHIMA-SAN!!
UGH...!
STING
STING

wham
NGH
ral
ral
ral

MITSURU-SAMA!
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE JUST NOW?
stomp
stomp
HE WENT OVER THERE,
GO GET HIM!

FUJI-SHIMA-SAN!
turn
stomp
stomp
.....
gulp
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?! CAN YOU STAND?
Y-YES...
LET'S GO TO THE WAITING ROOM.


DAMN IT
!
.....

THAT WAS SCARY.
I DON'T KNOW ...
Sulk
OH!
MAYBE SOMEONE AT THE PARTY HAS A GRUDGE ON YOU?
WAS HE PART OF YOUR LITTLE BROTHER'S DIVISION?
GEEZ,
STOP CRYING...
ARE YOU HURT?
THIS GAP.

DON'T CRY!
THAT'S GREAT!
NO.
I'VE EVEN FORGOTTEN THAT I DIDN'T FEEL WELL EARLIER.
ANYWAY, I TOLD YOU THAT I WAS GOING TO PROTECT YOU, BUT YOU HELPED ME INSTEAD, SORRY!
YOU REALLY ARE STRONG, AREN'T YOU?
TO THINK THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO KICK SOMEONE WHO HELD A WEAPON...
?!

I WAS
SCARED...
I THOUGHT THE BAT WAS GOING TO HIT YOUR HEAD...

pat pat
BUT I'M FINE, REALLY.
BESIDES, I TRAIN MY BODY, SO THIS IS NOT A BIG DEAL.
IT WAS MY ARM THAT GOT HIT.
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, CAN YOU STOP CRYING...
.....
AH——————...
YEAH...

IT WAS A STRANGER, AND IT HAPPENED WHEN MY ATTENTION WAS ELSEWHERE.
DELIN-QUENT?
BUT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT HE'S COMMITTED A NUMBER OF CRIMES, SO BETTER FOR YOU TO NOT BE ALONE.

I HEARD FUJISHIMA WAS ATTACKED?!
WE'VE CAUGHT THE HOODLUM ALREADY.
IT SEEMS THAT HE'S JUST SOME DELINQUENT.

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Remember to say THANK YOU.

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o

[Translation Project]

CASE 4

Shinmakoku*

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Ranjith ni Ai no Te o
Love Thy Neighb

Why...
is Go,yo
k.ssing me?
Kiss
Kiss
NG...
mh

HEY...

release

pant

ぐちゃぁ

GO-

HUH?!

rustle

?!

WHAT IS IT?

N-N-N-NOTHING.

fluster

fluster

UWAA!

k-chack

MITSURU!

I'M FINE—

MITSURU, I HEARD ALL ABOUT IT! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

IF HE MISTOOK ME FOR YOU, RYUSEI, THEN I'VE BEEN USEFUL.

BUT I WONDER IF THAT MAN ATTACKED THE WRONG PERSON?

thrust

EXCUSE ME!

.....

ACK!

USEFUL? WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

.....

.....

DON'T YOU THINK I HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

THE ONE WHO GOT HURT WAS ME, YOUR GUEST, YOU KNOW.

MITSURU!

THE TRUTH IS, MY JOB WAS TO BE A DECOY, SO NOTHING DANGEROUS WOULD HAPPEN TO RYUSEI.

YEAH.

THAT'S A COOL WAY TO PUT IT.
LIKE A DOUBLE?!
DECOY?
YOU?!
WAIT!
SO THAT INCIDENT BACK THEN...
I LEFT THE AREA IN A CAR AS THE SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE FOLLOWED MITSURU.
HOWEVER, WHEN MY CAR TRIED TO FOLLOW THEM, WE GOT IN AN ACCIDENT, AND AS A RESULT, WE COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THEIR IDENTITIES.
ABOUT THAT...
A SUSPICIOUS CAR WAS FOLLOWING US, SO WE SPLIT UP.

WHAT?

AFTER THAT, I RETURNED TO MATSUZAWA MANSION FOR A WHILE, BUT NOTHING ELSE HAPPENED.

!

I'M SORRY THAT YOU GOT HURT, FUJISHIMA-SAN.

THEN ANOTHER INCIDENT OCCURED TODAY.

WELL, I CAME HERE TO PROTECT YOU TO BEGIN WITH, SO I DON'T MIND.

TODAY YOU PROTECTED ME INSTEAD,

OH!

Right, you said so!

BUT IF THIS HAPPENS AGAIN...

!

PRO-TECTED ...

MITSURU DID...?

MITSURU, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.

ENOUGH. FUJISHIMA, I'LL ASK SOMEONE TO TAKE YOU TO THE HOSPITAL.

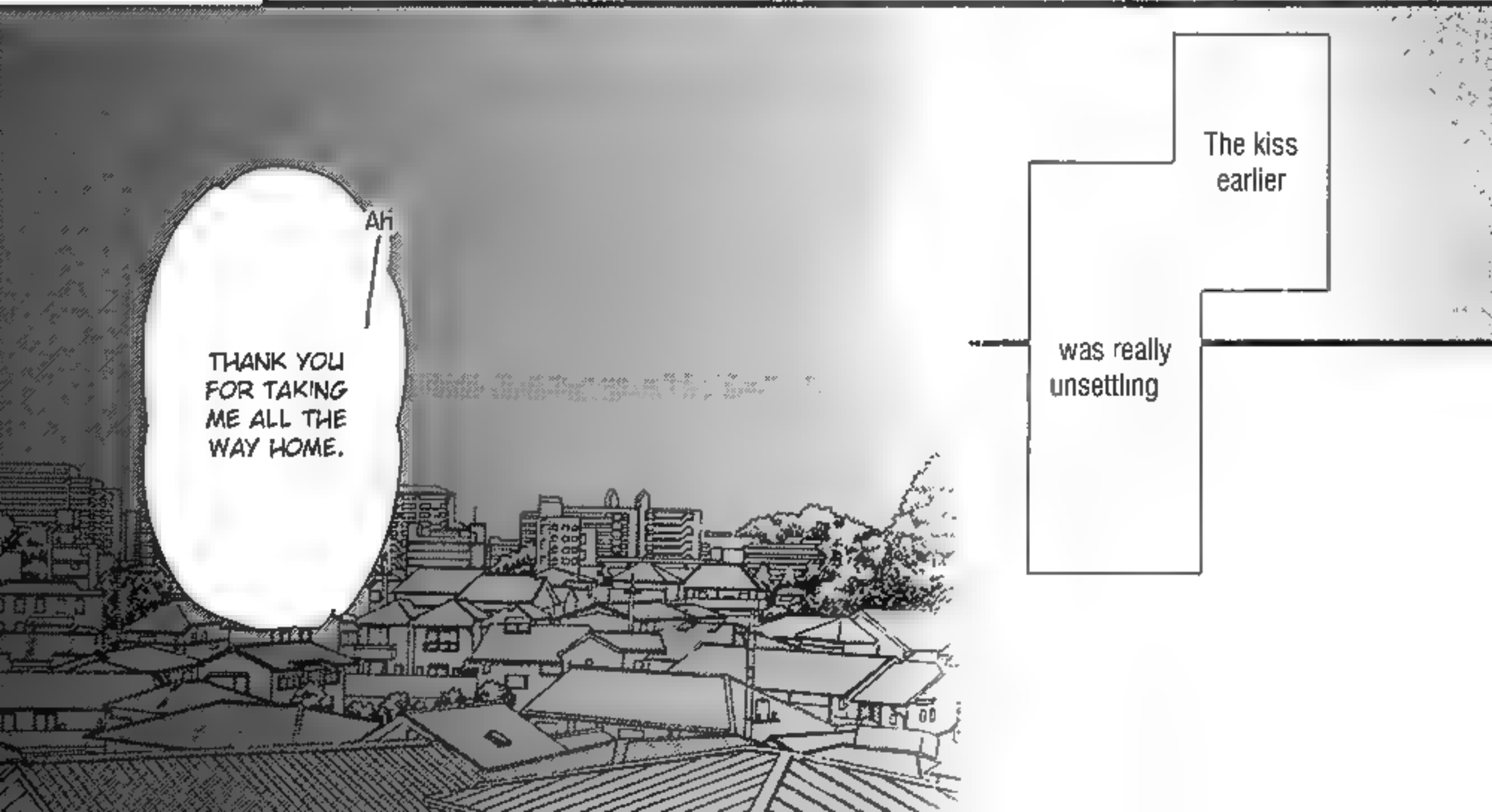
HM.

BUT FUJI-SHIMA-SAN PROTECTED ME FIRST.

Y-YES...

RIGHT?!

YEAH, HE DID.



Even though the little brother explained the details of the incident, he didn't confirm who the target was.
I'M SO TIRED.
VROOM
THANKS.
NO PROBLEM.
GET WELL SOON.
WERE THE BAT MAN AND THE SUSPICIOUS CAR SENT BY THE SAME PERSON?
IF SO, WAS GOJYO THEIR REAL TARGET...?
rustle
HUH?
BUT WHAT WOULD MY FACE SHOW WHEN I SEE HIM AGAIN?
I WANT TO TALK TO GOJYO ABOUT THIS,
thump
GO...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, BY THE WAY?

WAVE WAVE

WE NEED TO TALK.

DO YOU HAVE TIME?

OH AH...

IT WAS JUST A LIGHT HIT. NOT A BIG DEAL AT ALL.

HOW IS YOUR ARM?

IT'S GOOD ENOUGH WHEN I WANT TO BE ALONE.

IS THIS YOUR CAR? IT'S SO CUTE.

THEY WON'T GUARD US CLOSELY. NOT IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS.

THE MAIN GUARDS ARE PROTECTING MY FATHER AND HIS FRIENDS.

ALONE?

YOU JUST HAD AN INCIDENT AT YOUR PARTY. AREN'T YOU BEING TOO CAREFREE NOW?

FIVE YEARS AGO, MITSURU AND I MET EACH OTHER FOR THE FIRST TIME. I WAS 15 AND HE WAS 17.

IT WAS AT HIS MOTHER'S FUNERAL.

...

SO, YOU SECRETLY WENT OUT BY YOURSELF?

HOW IMPORTANT IS THIS CONVER-SATION?

THEN, WHEN SHE PASSED AWAY, MY FATHER ATTENDED HER FUNERAL.

WELL, SINCE THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY RELATIVES, IT WAS EASY TO JUST SUPPORT THE TWO OF THEM.

BUT THE TRUTH IS, SHE WAS MY FATHER'S EX-GIRL-FRIEND.

RECENTLY, WE'VE REFERRED TO HER AS MY FATHER'S MISTRESS FOR CONVE-NIENCE,

AFTER THEY BROKE UP, MY FATHER MARRIED MY MOTHER, BUT HE FOUND OUT THAT HIS EX-GIRLFRIEND HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO MITSURU.

WHAT?!

I WENT TO THE FUNERAL WITH THAT ATTITUDE.

I WAS PLANNING TO CRUSH HIM IF THEY MADE HIM AN HEIR OF THE FAMILY.

"JUST BECAUSE HE'S OLDER, I WON'T LET HIM DO WHATEVER HE LIKES!"

"I'VE BEEN PREPARED AS THE HEIR!"

AT THAT TIME, MITSURU WAS STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, SO THE FAMILY ASKED HIM IF HE WANTED TO STAY WITH THE MATSUZAWA FOR THE TIME BEING.

WHEN IT HAPPENED, I WAS WARY OF HIM.

"AN OLDER BROTHER ...?"

"IS THAT HIM?"

blush

?!

WE LOOK ALIKE! HOW INTE-RESTING!
ARE YOU RYUSEI-KUN?
MY YOUNGER BROTHER?
"ENOUGH! YOU SIT DOWN! I'LL DO IT!"
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST UPSET FOR LOSING HIS MOTHER, BUT NO, IT WAS JUST HOW HE WAS.
BUT I FOUND OUT THAT HE COULDN'T EVEN SERVE US TEA, AND HE SLIPPED WHEN HE TRIED TO SIT ON A CUSHION.
crash
AFTER THAT, I TRIED MY BEST TO STOP HIM FROM BEING NICE TO ME,
slip
I WENT THERE TO FIGHT HIM, BUT TO MY SURPRISE, MITSURU WELCOMED ME INSTEAD.
DON'T LAUGH!
.....
...SORRY.

ARE YOU GOING TO LIVE BY YOURSELF? WHAT ABOUT SCHOOL?"
"BUT...
"THANK YOU."
"I'M NOT A PART OF MATSUZAWA, AFTER ALL."
IN THE BEGINNING, HE DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE MATSUZAWA.
AT THAT POINT, I WAS COMPLETELY DUMBFOUNDED.
MY MOTHER ALSO NOTICED HOW DANGEROUS IT WOULD BE IF MITSURU LIVED BY HIMSELF, SO SHE LET HIM STAY WITH US.
ANYWAY, SINCE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT HIM, I TOOK HIM HOME WITH ME BY FORCE.
"NO, WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT OTHER THINGS FIRST!"
"NONETHELESS, I HAVE TO MOVE OUT."
"I CAN'T PAY MY CURRENT RENT."
THERE IS AN OPINION GOING AROUND, SAYING THAT THE ELDEST SON SHOULD BE THE COMPANY'S PRESIDENT.
I THOUGHT MY FATHER PLANNED TO TAKE CARE OF MITSURU UNTIL HE COULD FIND A JOB,
BUT NOW I THINK IT'S NOT TRUE.

IS IT ONE OF THE SPLIT FACTIONS?

AT FIRST,

BUT THEY CONTINUED TO TEACH MITSURU MARTIAL ARTS AND ETIQUETTES.

MY FATHER DIDN'T AGREE TO IT,

HOWEVER, ONE DAY,

I REALIZED THAT MITSURU WAS ACTUALLY IN PAIN.

"MITSURU?"

I...

I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT,

SO I JUST WATCHED.

"I WANT TO LIVE SOMEWHERE ELSE!"

WHEN HE GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY, HE USED THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO AND LIVE BY HIMSELF.

EVEN WHEN HE SMILED, I KNEW THAT HE JUST PRETENDED, AND HE REMAINED UNSETTLED.

NORMALLY HE ALWAYS SMILED, BUT BACK THEN, HE WENT STIFF.

SOMEONE PROPOSED THE IDEA TO USE MITSURU AS MY DOUBLE.

THEN,

WHAT IS GOJYO'S WILL?

I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT ALL STARTED, BUT THERE'S DEFINITELY A RUMOR GOING AROUND ABOUT IT.

IT COULD BE A FELLOW FROM MY DIVISION, SIMPLY TO PUT MITSURU IN DANGER, BUT I'M NOT SURE.

AT ANY RATE, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SOLIDIFY MITSURU'S POSITION AS THE HEIR, REGARDLESS OF HIS WILL.

BUT EVEN IN HIS OWN APARTMENT, HE'S STILL RESTRAINED, DON'T YOU THINK?
FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN HE WENT SHOPPING AND BOUGHT A TABLE,
YOU STILL SCOLDED HIM...
I'M NOT SURE.
HE NEVER SPEAKS HIS MIND AND ALWAYS OBEYS THE LAW.
ONLY BECAUSE YOU WERE INVOLVED!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
BUT I DON'T LIKE TO SEE HIM STIFF.
HE TOLD ME THAT HE WANTED TO PUT THE TABLE YOU CHOSE FOR HIM IN THERE!
BUT THEN,
EVERYTHING IN HIS APARTMENT WAS GIVEN BY ME!
I JUST WANT HIM TO SMILE GENUINELY.
Whoa.
Whoa.

...BECAUSE I WAS INVOLVED?
THAT'S...
UM...

ON TOP OF THAT, HE ALSO PROTECTED YOU...
DAMN IT!
BROCON, HUH...

BUT I WANT HIM TO VOICE HIS OPINION BECAUSE OF ME!
.....
THANKS TO YOU, GOJYO IS HAPPY NOW, AND HE'S ABLE TO VOICE HIS OPINION!
WASN'T YOUR JUDGMENT CORRECT?!

SULK
BROCON ...

ruffle
ruffle

!

HUH?

YOU REALLY LIKE GOJYO, DON'T YOU?

!!

OH, WELL. I CAN'T HATE YOU.

...I CAN'T SAY.

BUT, PUTTING THAT ASIDE...

WHY DON'T YOU GIVE HIM A CELLPHONE?

CELL-PHONE?

ME?

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

STOP THAT!

I CAN'T SAY...

DO YOU WANT TO CONTACT HIM PERSONALLY?

I'LL GIVE IT TO HIM SOMEDAY.

ANYWAY, THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TODAY.

How does Gojyo feel now that he's involved in the Matsuzawa's power strugg e?

I'm sure he doesn't confide in his little brother about it.

His little brother is just trying to be a little brother.

But, can it be that he is also try ng to ident fy the culprit?

If he has anything to say

I'd be more than happy to hear it

The police can't do anything either, because there's no report yet.

But.

there was something else that he conveyed without words

WHY DID IT MAKE MY HEART RACE?! WHY?!

SHOULDN'T IT BE REPULSIVE?! WHAT IS THIS?!

blush

IT DOESN'T HURT ANYMORE!

I'M COMPLETELY RECOVERED!

rustle

TRASH

I haven't seen Gojyo since then.

Fujishima-kun, that was unfortunate... But we don't have any insurance for compensation

I figured

BUT I'M JUST GOING TO LEAVE THE MATTER TO THE MATSUZAWA.

IT SEEMS THAT THE OFFENDER HAS BEEN RELEASED.

WHAT A COINCIDENCE.

GOOD MORNING, FUJISHIMA-SAN.

It's about time.

tap
tap
H-
F-FUJISHIMA-SAN?!
HELLO
AH...!
thump
thump
thump
thump
thump
...!
I'll TAKE THIS.
rustle
Oh.
OKAY...
That's mine!
I'm sorry for the trouble.
YEAH
You've grown your beard again.

I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU SOONER, BUT I COULDN'T.
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT.
shake shake
IT'S COMPLETELY FINE NOW!
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR THE INJURY.
YOU HAVE MORE PROBLEMS THAN I DO, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
OH!
HOW IS YOUR ARM?
UM, FUJISHIMA-SAN,
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.
DO YOU WANT TO HAVE DINNER TOGETHER AGAIN?

HERE.

Um...

IS THERE SOMETHING I CAN WRITE ON?

OF COURSE! PERFECT TIMING! I NEED TO TALK WITH YOU, TOO.

I'LL CALL YOU AFTER WORK- WAIT, I CAN'T CALL YOU.

Hahaha.

IT TICKLES!

scratch

scratch

OF COURSE.

SURE.

OKAY THEN, I'LL WRITE IT HERE.

SERI- OUSLY?

chuckle

IF NOTHING HAPPENS, I SHOULD BE HOME BY 8. I'LL KNOCK ON YOUR DOOR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF SOMETHING COMES UP, YOU SHOULD CALL ME.

OKAY.

WELL, THEN. I'M OFF TO WORK.

Have a nice day!

HE'S SO CUTE.

GOOD WORK TODAY.

I can understand why his litt e brother s worried when he becomes stiff.

SHOULD I BUY SOME-THING FIRST?

GOJYO DIDN'T CALL ME AT ALL, SO I'LL GO STRAIGHT TO HIS HOUSE.

HM?

ARE YOU GOING HOME, FUJISHIMA-SAN?

PERFECT TIMING.

MAYBE SOME YAKITORI AND VEGE-TABLES...

I'M MITSURU AND RYUSEI'S UNCLE, MATSUZAWA SHOICHIRO.
!
OH,
UM...
Oh.
THAT'S RIGHT. GOOD EVENING.

THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER DAY.
WE SURE CAUSED YOU TROUBLE, DIDN'T WE?

.....
IS SOME-THING THE MAT-TER?

ISN'T THIS AN AMBUSH?
OH!

I WAS ABOUT TO VISIT YOUR OFFICE.
WOULD YOU MIND HAVING DINNER WITH ME?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A DRINK?

N-NO, THANKS.

NOT IN THIS CAR.

I CAN'T! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE RIDDEN A LIMOUSINE.

DON'T BE NERVOUS.

IT'S A-SAN.

DOES THAT MEAN GOJYO KNOWS ABOUT THIS...?

YES,

SO YOU SHOULD RELAX.

WHAT? IN THE LIMOU-SINE?

IT SEEMS THAT THE LIMOUSINE HAS BEEN RENTED BY YOUNG WOMEN FOR A DRIVE PARTY RECENTLY.

BOTH OF YOU LIVE IN THE SAME BUILDING, RIGHT?

clink

!

IT'S ABOUT MITSURU.

ANYWAY, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TODAY,

phew

SO LET'S GET TO THE POINT.

CAN YOU PERSUADE HIM

TO RETURN TO MATSUZAWA?

HUH...?

...HAVE YOU ASKED HIM WHAT HE WANTS?

"OBEY"?

I WANT HIM TO RETURN TO MATSUZAWA WILLINGLY.

NO, I HAVEN'T.

.....

BUT...

IF YOU TELL HIM TO, I'M SURE HE'LL OBEY YOU.

YOU TWO ARE GOOD FRIENDS, RIGHT?

THAT KID IS FAR SUPERIOR THAN RYUSEI,

BOTH IN EDUCATION AND SPORTS, AND HE LEARNS FAST, TOO.

I WANT MITSURU TO BE THE PRESIDENT OF OUR COMPANY.

BUT I THINK HE'S CUTE THAT WAY.

I CAN'T DENY THAT,

.....

WELL, ACTUALLY, A LOT CLUMSIER...

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. HE'S A BIT CLUMSY COMPARED TO OTHERS, RIGHT?

BUT ISN'T HE...

PRESI-DENT, YOU SAY?

DURING THE PARTY, I HIRED THE MAN TO THREATEN RYUSEI, BUT HE MISTOOK MITSURU FOR RYUSEI.

I WAS SURPRISED BY MITSURU'S REACTION.

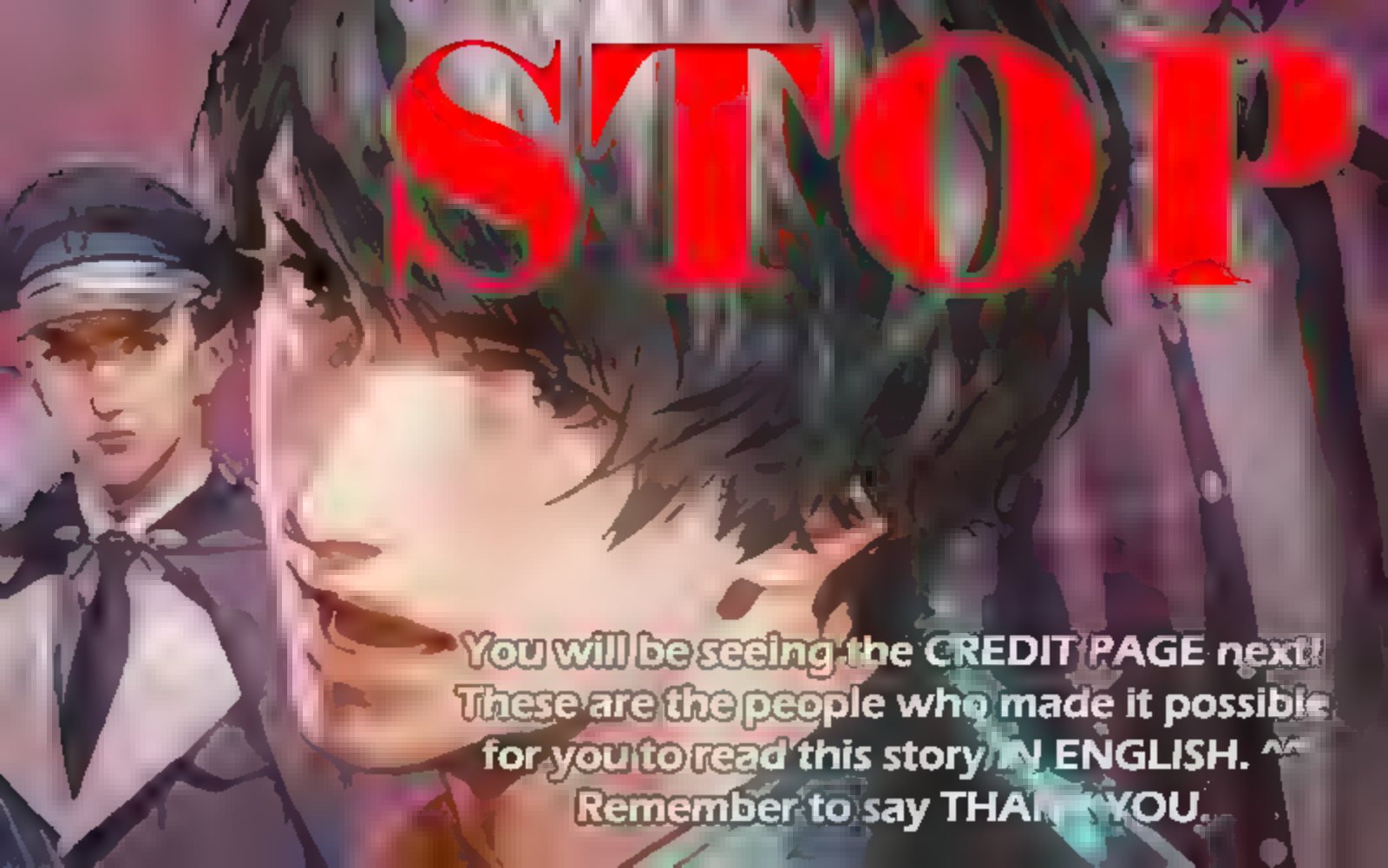
THANKS TO HIM, THOUGH, I WAS ABLE TO SEE HOW MUCH MITSURU HAS GROWN.

AT ANY RATE, HE ALWAYS HAS THE GUTS WHEN THE SITUATION NEEDS IT.

I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T DO THAT!
SO HE'S THE ONE WHO TAKES CARE OF THINGS, HUH?
IS DANGER-OUS.
GOJYO'S WILL IS MORE IMPORTANT HERE, SO WE SHOULD RESPECT IT AND ASK HIM FIRST.
THIS MAN...
BESIDES, YOU KNOW THAT I'M A POLICEMAN, RIGHT-
?!
grab
grab

IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT MITSURU LEFT MATSUZAWA.
AND I WON'T LET THAT CONTI-NUE.
YOU'LL HAVE TO COOPERATE WITH US, NO MATTER WHAT.
?!

Thank you for your love and support to Nakata Akira!!
Please buy the original works whenever possible!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for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o

[Gentle Hands of Love]

CASE 5

Shinmakoku*
Coordinator/Editor
Waltraud von Bielefeld
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Cases

I SENT MY BODYGUARDS WITH HIM, SO HE SHOULD BE FINE.
CAN'T I VISIT HIM AT THE HOSPITAL?
I WONDER HOW FUJI-SHIMA-SAN IS DOING.
YOU'RE HURT, TOO, RIGHT?
Fuji-shima-sama waiting room
Fuji-shima-sama waiting room
"IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT MITSURU LEFT MATSUZAWA."
YEAH...
BUT
I WANT TO BE WITH HIM...

BY THE WAY,

I'M NOT GOING TO ATTEND ANY PARTY AFTER THIS.

I DON'T WANT TO BE THE HEIR, AFTER ALL.

DON'T TELL ME

YOU...

WAIT.

LET'S TALK ABOUT THAT INSIDE.

THAT HURTS!

CAN'T YOU BE A LITTLE GENTLER?!

Height limit 1·9

HEY!

DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE?! THIS IS KIDNAPPING, YOU KNOW?!

BUT YOU CAME WITH ME VOLUNTARILY.

STOP MAKING UP EXCUSES!!

AM I?

OH, WELL.

LUCKILY THIS UNDERGROUND PARKING LOT CAN'T BE ACCESSED WITHOUT A KEY,

SO WE DON'T NEED TO RESTRAIN HIM.

I BROUGHT YOU ALONG BECAUSE YOU KNOW FUJISHIMA-SAN.
BUT AS SOON AS HE HOPPED IN, I TOLD YOU TO GO AWAY.
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?
BY THE WAY...
SHIT!
I BEG YOUR PARDON.
I'VE BEEN WITH MITSURU-SAMA FOR A LONG TIME.

SO, A-SAN DOESN'T GET ALONG WITH THE UNCLE, HUH?

GO AWAY NOW.

YES, SIR.

WHAT'S YOUR POINT?

WHEN MITSURU-SAMA NEEDS ME, HE LOOKS AT ME AND TALKS TO ME CLEARLY, UNTIL I UNDERSTAND THE ORDER.

TENSE

TENSE

TENSE

WHOA... SCARY.

LET'S CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATION, FUJISHIMA-SAN.

WOULD YOU PLEASE CONVINCE MITSURU ABOUT THE MATTER I MENTIONED EARLIER?

...?

WHAT IS IT?

HM...

FIRST THINGS FIRST, WE NEED TO ASK WHAT GOJYO REALLY WANTS AND RESPECT HIS WILL!

I TOLD YOU!

I CAN POSSIBLY HIRE YOU, YOU KNOW.

I'LL PREPARE YOUR OFFICE AND INCREASE YOUR SALARY.

I CAN ALSO INTRODUCE YOU TO SOMEONE, SINCE YOU SEEM TO BE SINGLE.

WHAT?!

?!

IF YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TELLS HIM, HE'LL DEFINITELY LISTEN TO YOU.

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!

AND WITH HIS PERSONALITY, I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING HE CAN DO OUTSIDE THE COMPANY.

DON'T YOU SEE? HE'S 22 ALREADY. HE CAN'T SPEND THE REST OF HIS LIFE DOING NOTHING LIKE THAT.

!!
THAT'S THE REASON WHY HE CAN'T EVEN BREW COFFEE, HUH?!
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE'VE EDUCATED HIM, SO HE'D STAY INSIDE THE "BOX" FOREVER.

WELL, I CAN'T DENY THE FACT THAT WE DIDN'T TEACH HIM COMMON SENSE,

BUT HE WAS THAT KIND OF CHILD FROM THE BEGINNING, ANYWAY.

IF YOU'RE PART OF THE MATSUZAWA FAMILY, YOU DON'T NEED COMMON KNOWLEDGE. YOU JUST NEED TO FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS, AND YOU'LL BE FINE.

This guy...

treats Gojyo like a toy.

MITSURU WILL RETURN TO MATSUZAWA, NO MATTER WHAT.

GOJYO WANTS TO LEAVE MATSUZAWA AS MUCH AS YOU WANT HIM TO STAY!
I'M JUST GOING TO LET HIM CHOOSE. THAT'S WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT HERE!
BESIDES, IF IT'S ONLY HIM, I CAN DEFINITELY TAKE CARE OF HIM!
I CAN SEE WHY HIS LITTLE BROTHER WANTS HIM TO LEAVE THIS FAMILY SO BADLY.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT GOJYO THINKS ABOUT THIS SITUATION,
BUT I...

I'll protect Gojyo with all my might!

I won't fail him again!

I WON'T LET YOU DO WHATEVER YOU PLEASE!

I won't let anyone take away that smile from him!

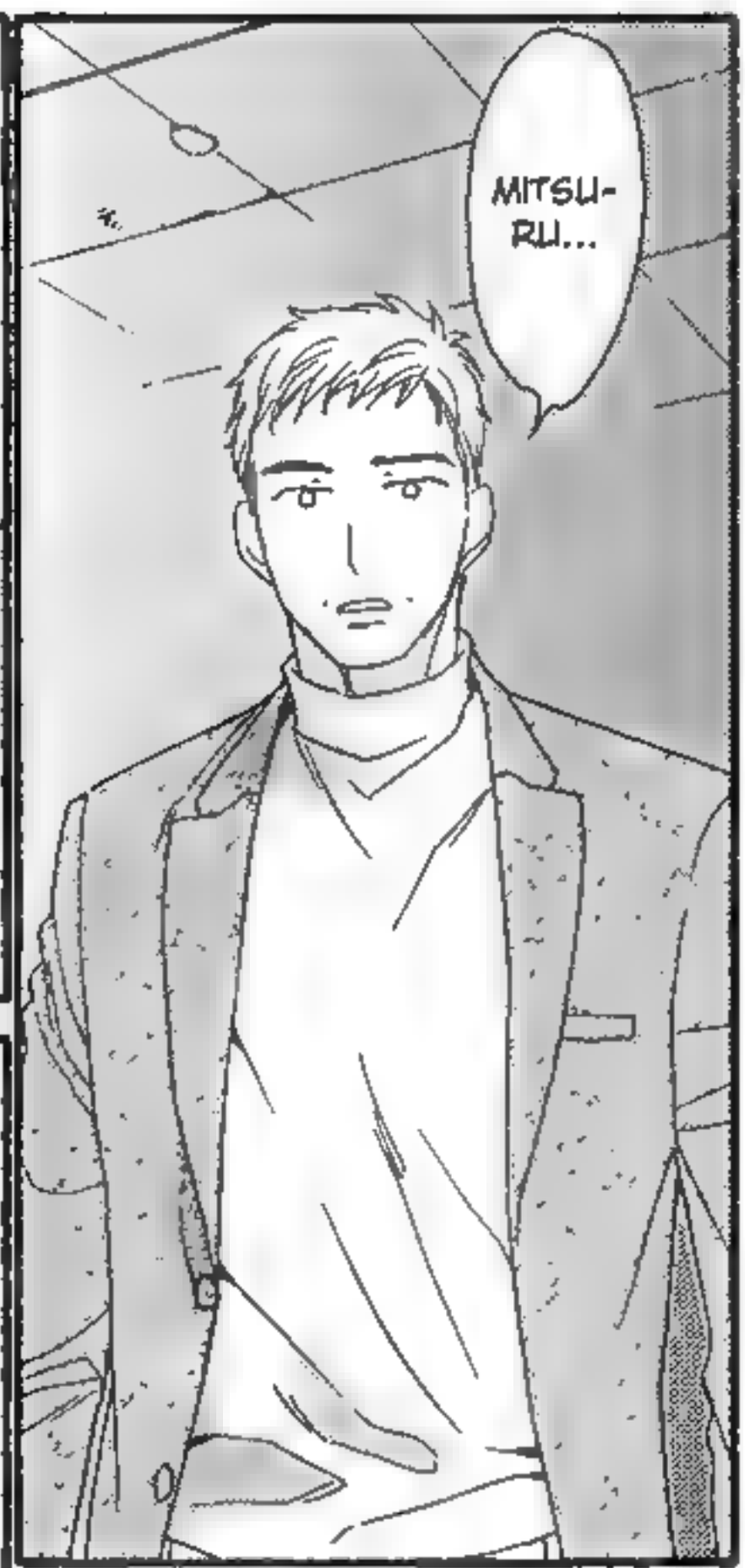
limit 1.9m

REALLY?!
ACK!
MITSURU!!

GOSHOT!
...!

WHAT?!

SO I CAN STILL BE YOUR NEIGHBOUR?!



I WENT ON AHEAD AND WAITED FOR YOU HERE.

ACTUALLY I WANTED TO GET A MORE THOROUGH CONFESSION, BUT...

I SUPPOSE THIS IS ENOUGH.

YOU RECOMMENDED ME AS THE HEIR, BUT JUDGING FROM YOUR WORDS JUST NOW...

IT'S CLEAR THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CAUSED THE UPROAR IN OUR FAMILY RECENTLY.

THE CONVERSATIONS IN THE CAR HAVE BEEN RECORDED AS WELL.
IF YOUR REASON TO PROMOTE MITSURU WAS ACCEPTABLE, I WAS READY TO OVERLOOK THIS INCIDENT, BUT...
IT WASN'T.
!
IN THE END, YOU JUST WANTED TO MANIPULATE MITSURU ACCORDING TO YOUR WILL.
I DON'T THINK FATHER WILL FORGIVE YOU FOR THAT, EITHER,
BUT MOST OF ALL, I'M REALLY SURPRISED THAT YOU'D DO SOMETHING RECKLESS LIKE THIS.
.....

UNCLE,
.....
I'M NOT A PERSON WITH A BIG CAPABILITY.
I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO DO THIS KIND OF THING.

.....
I SEE.
I'M SORRY,
KAORI...
Kaori...?
FUJI-SHIMA-SAN.
HM?

WHAT?
OH...
SHALL WE GO TO THE POLICE?
IT'S TRUE THAT I CAME WITH HIM VOLUNTARILY,
AND HE DIDN'T THREATEN ME, EITHER...
COME TO THINK OF IT...
BESIDES, NOBODY IS HURT...
I CAN'T SEE IT THAT WAY.
Deja vu.
SO, IT WAS NOT KIDNAP-PING?

NOW I SAID IT MYSELF!

YOU STILL NEED TO REPORT THE CAR ACCIDENT AND THE INCIDENT AT THE PARTY. I CAN'T OVERLOOK THEM.

HUH?

point

HOW-EVER...

IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT?

WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING TO ME?

What?

ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALRIGHT?

MITSURU, YOU GO WITH FUJI-SHIMA.

I'LL GO HOME WITH UNCLE.

.....

I THINK SO, TOO.

IF UNCLE WAS REALLY BEHIND ALL THIS, I CAN'T TOLERATE IT, EITHER.

I'M SORRY FOR THE TROUBLES.

YES.

IN THE END, HE'S NOT A BAD GUY, SO LEAVE THE REST TO ME.

.....

Not a bad guy, huh?

Kaori

Well he might have gone a bit too far,

but the reason he did all that...

I have a key.

But he said that we can't leave this place without a key.

I'll take you home.

BY THE WAY, HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

That was a shock.

TA-DAA!

HUH?

OH, WAIT...

WHOA!

See?!

PHONES ARE NECESSARY!

It's very convenient.

THEN A-SAN CALLED ME, AND I TOLD RYUSEI ABOUT IT.

I JUST BOUGHT A CELLPHONE, AND I WANTED TO TELL YOU SO BADLY!

YOU TOLD RYUSEI ABOUT IT, DIDN'T YOU?

HUH?

WELL...

I ACTUALLY WANTED TO TAKE HIM SHOPPING FOR A CELLPHONE...

OH, WELL.

BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE A COVER YET, SO LET'S BUY IT TO-GETHER.

OKAY...

I've acknow-ledged it.

DID THAT HAPPEN AFTER I LEFT FOR THE HOSPITAL?

I don't remember.

WHAT DID I SAY?

YES.

MITSURU-SAMA, YOU SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO BE WITH FUJISHIMA-SAN.

SHOICHIRO-SAMA MUST HAVE OVERHEARD THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MITSURU-SAMA AND RYUSEI-SAMA IN THE WAITING ROOM.

THAT PROBABLY PROPELLED HIM TO ACT WITHOUT PROPER PLANNING.

DON'T BLAME ME. I JUST HELPED YOU WITH THE PROGRESS.

Huh?

YOU'RE SO MEAN! WHY ARE YOU SAYING IT NOW?!

A-SAN ~!!

ruffle
ruffle

I WANT TO BE WITH HIM, TOO.

WITH THIS, WE DON'T NEED TO COME UP WITH AN EXCUSE, RIGHT?

HEHE.

EXCUSE?

WILL THE SIDE DISH FROM THE SUPERMARKET BE ENOUGH FOR YOU?

YES, YES!

RIGHT?

YUP!

ALRIGHT.

THEN, I'LL EXCUSE MYSELF NOW. IF YOU NEED SOMETHING, JUST CALL.

Throw-ing away the trash.

A-SAN

!!

WHAT IS IT?

Hahaha!

I DON'T NEED ANYTHING!

smile

Well, then.

THANK YOU FOR TODAY.

Is that appropriate?

clink

I FEEL LIKE HE JUST ASKED ME TO TAKE CARE OF GOJYO.

Yakitori!

I WONDER...

I DIDN'T GET ALONG WELL WITH UNCLE, SO I WAS SURPRISED THAT HE DID THAT TO MAKE ME THE HEIR.

BESIDES, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS TROUBLED, RIGHT?

DON'T MIND IT!

bow

bow

UH,

I THINK IT'S MORE APPROPRIATE TO SAY I'M SORRY FOR THE TROUBLES.

IT'S MY MOTHER. HOW DID YOU KNOW HER NAME?

WHO IS KAORI-SAN?

OH...

UM...

BUT NOW I KNOW, THERE WAS ANOTHER REASON BEHIND IT.

I COULD ONLY GUESS AT THE TIME,

AW!

HE TOLD ME WHAT HAPPENED WHEN HE MET YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME.

Oh!

I HEARD FROM YOUR LITTLE BROTHER!

WELL, I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHAT...?!

.....

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED, HUH?

THAT'S EMBAR-RASSING.

I FEEL LIKE I CAN ONLY DO THINGS WHEN PEOPLE ORDER ME AROUND.

THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS I CAN'T DO.

DO YOU WANT TO HEAR MY STORY?

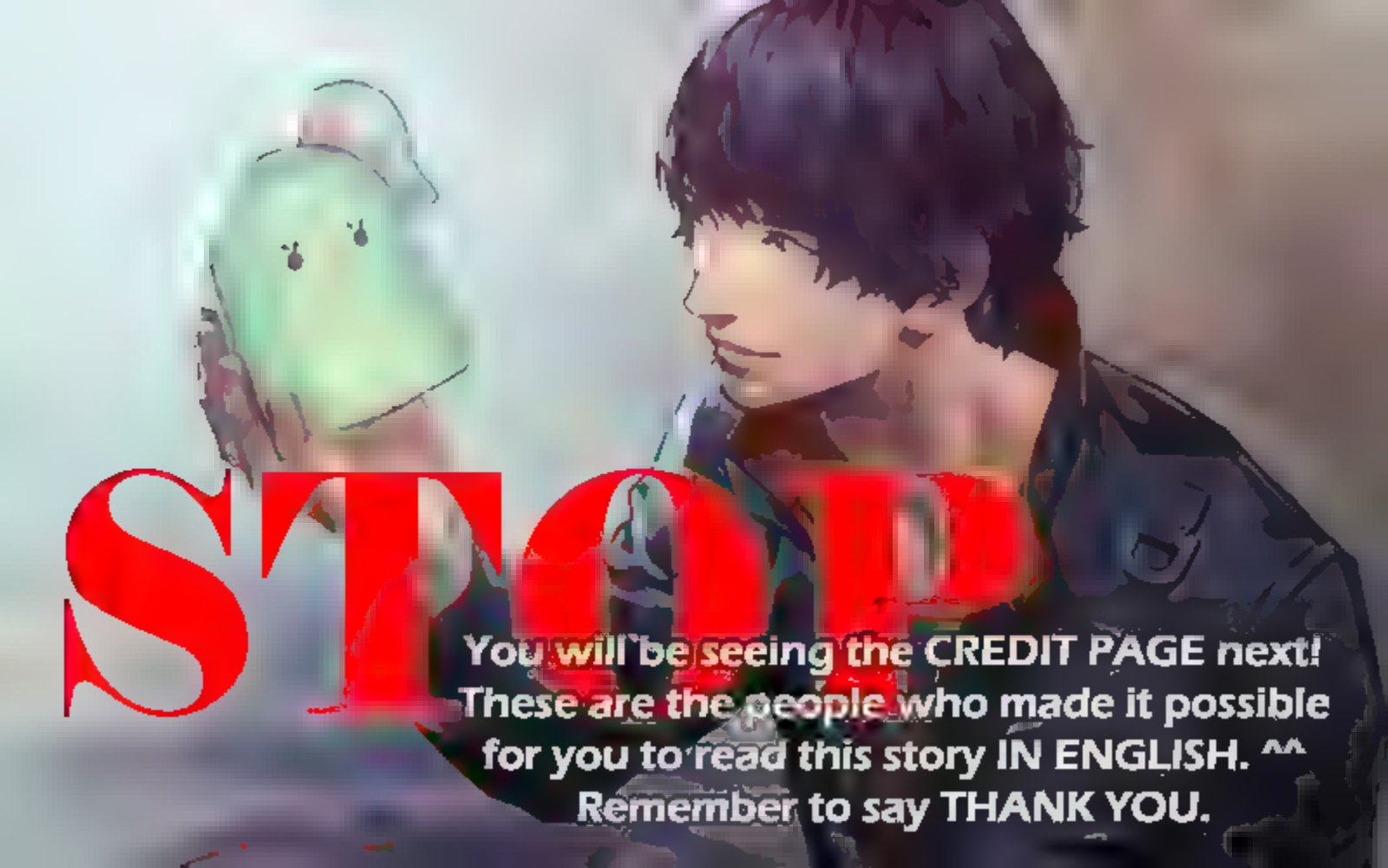
BUT THIS TIME, IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

!

SURE!

OOPS.

flomp
I REALLY
HM?
GOLD
OKAY, FIRST...
LIKE YOU, FUJISHIMA-SAN.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[Gentle Hands of Love]

CASE 6

Shinmakoku*
Cleaning Editor
Volunteer Bielefeld
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Proofreader
Janazono Jikan

Coincide

WHAT...

WHAT

DO YOU MEAN BY LIKE...?

"I LIKE YOU, FUJISHIMA-SAN."

blush
blush
blush
blush
blush
blush

LUM...

I WANT

TO BE WITH YOU FOREVER...

AND I ALWAYS GET EXCITED WHEN I'M WITH YOU.

How far do you want to go?

DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU LIKE GUYS INSTEAD?

YOU SAID THAT YOU DON'T LIKE GIRLS, RIGHT?

grab

IS THAT WHY HE KISSED ME?

EXCITED WHEN HE'S WITH ME...?

OH.

I SAID IT!

WHAT?!

roll

roll

I NEVER THINK ABOUT IT.

I DON'T KNOW.

BUT IF I GET INVOLVED WITH GIRLS, I'M AFRAID THE MATSUZAWA FAMILY

WILL HAVE A REASON TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT ME AGAIN.

AND SHE FORCED HERSELF TO WORK HARD, EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS NOT COMPLETELY HEALTHY. IN THE END, SHE PASSED AWAY.
SHE TURNED DOWN MATSUZAWA'S OFFER AS MUCH AS SHE COULD,
LIFE
HAD NOT BEEN KIND TO MY MOTHER SINCE SHE GAVE BIRTH TO ME.
IF THEY EVER CAME TO VISIT ME.
SO SHE ENCOURAGED ME TO BE NICE TO THEM...
SHE KNEW THAT IT WAS NOT MATSUZAWA'S FAULT,
AFTER THAT...
EVEN THOUGH THEY TOLD ME THE SAME STORY, THE NUANCE IS DIFFERENT.
SINCE WE LOOKED ALIKE, WE QUICKLY GOT ALONG.
THEN, I MET RYUSEI FOR THE FIRST TIME AT MY MOTHER'S FUNERAL.

RYUSEI, WHO UNDERSTOOD MY FEELINGS, GAVE UP AND RENTED THIS PLACE FOR ME...
I TOLD THEM THAT I WAS NOT INTERESTED, BUT THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN.
THEN, THERE WAS A DISCUSSION TO MAKE ME A CANDIDATE FOR THE HEIR.
RYUSEI REALIZED THAT I COULDN'T DO A LOT OF THINGS BY MYSELF. HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME, SO HE TOOK ME TO THE MATSUZAWA'S RESIDENCE.
I WAS HAPPY THAT THEY TOOK ME IN, BUT I HAD TO LEARN VARIOUS THINGS WHILE I WAS THERE.
SOMEHOW,
I FELT SUFFOCATED AND TIRED.
AFTER THAT, I MET YOU, FUJISHIMA-SAN.
...!

EVEN THOUGH YOU KNEW THAT I WAS PART OF THE MATSUZAWA FAMILY, YOU NEVER FORCED ME TO RETURN TO THEM.

YOU MADE ME DINNER, WE WENT SHOPPING TOGETHER, AND YOU CARED ABOUT ME.

NO.

IF ANYTHING, THEY GAVE ME THEIR BUSINESS CARDS AT THE PARTIES. IT WAS TROUBLESOME.

Hm

NO ONE ELSE EVER DID THAT FOR YOU?

.....

BUT, THAT'S BECAUSE I'M A POLICEMAN,

AND WE'RE THE CITIZEN'S ALLY.

IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.
.....
oops.
Is he going to cry?
gulp gulp gulp
?!
HEY...
fuuah
LET'S DRINK!!

He's doing his best to play dumb.

No, it's probably I who play dumb...

But
he lost his mother and was suffering in Matsuzawa.
When he came here by himself...
HE LIKES ME, HUH?
I WANT TO SPREAD IT OUT, BUT I'M AFRAID I'LL WAKE HIM UP.
THERE'S HIS FUTON.
I was the only person he could rely on.
Is that why he likes me?
HE'S SO SOFT AND ADOR-ABLE.

Nonetheless, our meeting is only one of many future meetings he'll experience

GH...!

It's probably better for him

tap tap tap " slam "

to be with someone else.

UM...

chatter

chatter

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?

I SURRENDER.

.....!!

.....!!!

!
TO INFORM YOU ABOUT THE THUG I HIRED AT THE PARTY.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE BEST IF I CAME HERE DIRECTLY
Oh.
I OVER-SLEPT...
THIS MORN-ING...
IT WAS REPORTED IN THE MORNING NEWS, RIGHT?
I'VE GIVEN UP MY POSITION AS WELL.
MY, MY.

THAT WAS BECAUSE OF ME AS WELL.
ABOUT THE ACCIDENT THE OTHER DAY...
ALSO,
THAT'S ...

BUT RYUSEI THOUGHT IT WAS SUSPICIOUS.
THAT WAS NOT THE INTENTION.
THE TRUTH IS, I JUST TRIED TO SEE THEM OFF,
WHY DID YOU FOLLOW THEM?

MY REQUEST TEXTS AND
MY SUBOR-DINATE'S TESTI-MONY.
WHAT'S THE PROOF?
I'M AN EXCELLENT STALKER.
WHY DO YOU SURRENDER, THOUGH?
AND THE REASON BEHIND YOUR ACTION...?
THIS WAY, MITSURU WILL BE FREE.
IF I AM APPREHENDED, NO ONE WILL MAKE A FUSS ABOUT MITSURU ANYMORE.

KAORI WAS MY BROTHER'S EX-GIRL-FRIEND.

BUT I LOVED HER AS WELL.

.....

I

WANTED MITSURU... KAORI'S SON TO LIVE WITHOUT INCONVENIENCE.

THAT WAS MY MAIN REASON.

.....

I'LL SEND YOU TO THE PROSE-CUTOR.

PLEASE WAIT HERE FOR A BIT.

I'M COUNTING ON YOU.

OH, BY THE WAY, FUJISHIMA-SAN...

YES.

!

Is that so?

DURING THE PARTY AND AT YESTERDAY'S INCIDENT...

Shut

FUJI-SHIMA-KUN,

HOW IS MATSUZAWA SHOICHIRO?!

Ah!

COULD YOU PLEASE CALL THE CENTRAL OFFICE? HE'S THE PERSON BEHIND THE PARTY INCIDENT.

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A BRIGHT EXPRESSION ON MITSURU'S FACE BEFORE.

sigh

After that

COME TO THINK OF IT, HE NEVER TALKS ABOUT THE ARRANGED MARRIAGE ANYMORE.

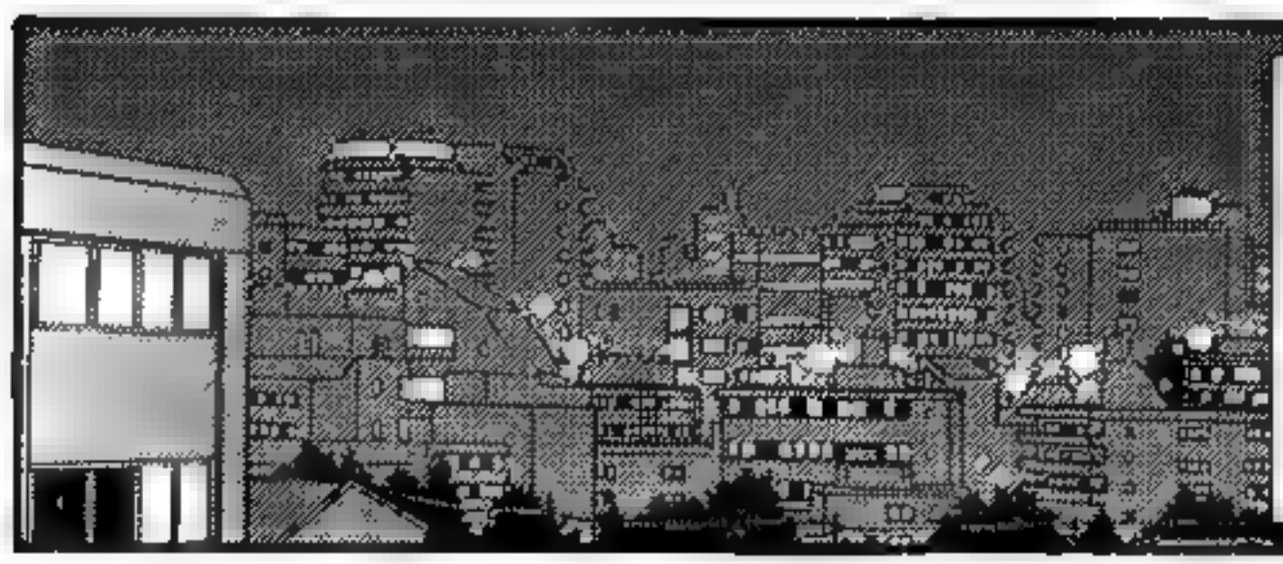
It's not easy to be a captain, huh?

Central office...

Central office...

dash

dash



was sent to the Metropolitan Police Department immediately.

I heard from someone that the uncle's case

?!
CLATTER
CLANG
CLATTER
CLANG
CLATTER
flinch

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE YES-TERDAY...
THIS IS NOT A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP, BUT...

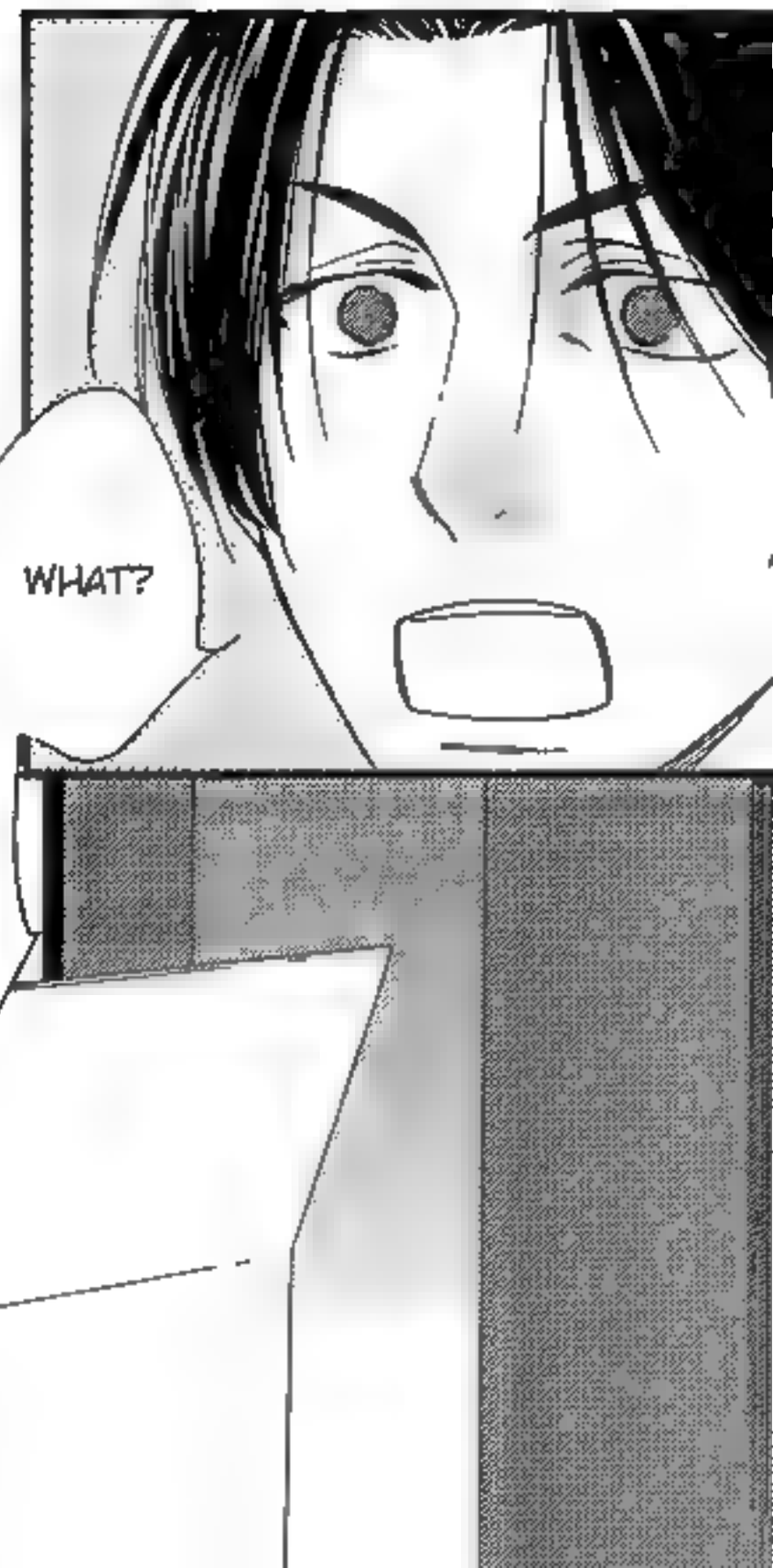
.....
CLANG
CLANG

604
ding
dong
I JUST CAN'T IGNORE IT...
TAP
TAP

I KNEW YOU'D STOP BY.
Shut
UNCLE WENT TO YOUR OFFICE, RIGHT?
YEAH.
I THINK THEY'LL CALL YOU.

HEY.
You're here?
K-chack
Oh!
FUJI-SHIMA.

PACKING THINGS.
HE'S INSIDE,
... WHERE'S GOJYO?


WHAT?
MOVING OUT?!

WE TOLD FATHER ABOUT EVERY-THING...

SO MITSURU DOESN'T NEED TO LIVE ALONE ANYMORE.

spin

spin

spin

HE SAID THAT HE'S GOING TO DO SOMETHING FOR MITSURU,

HIS EYES ARE RED.

SO, HE'S GOING BACK TO MATSUZAWA?

FOR THE TIME BEING, YES.

THAT WAY, HE ALSO WON'T TROUBLE YOU ANYMORE.

I SEE...

WHAT KIND OF REASON IS THAT?

Why do I feel lonely all of a sudden...?

IS IT BECAUSE OF YOUR JOB?
drip
drip
WHY...?
THEREFORE...
!!
.....
UH.
YOU REJECTED ME.
IF YOU'RE BEING NICE NOW, YOU'RE JUST GOING TO HURT MY FEELINGS.

DON'T CRY!!
THE PROBLEM IS, I'M A NOBODY!
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO, EVEN IF I SAY THAT I LIKE YOU...
!
THEY'RE THE SAME...!
ARE DIFFER-ENT...
NO, THIS AND THAT
BUT THAT'S ALL I EVER WANT!
I CAN ONLY OFFER MYSELF IF YOU WANT TO BE WITH ME!

YEAH, RIGHT.

gasp

YOUR SUPPORT.

WHAT MITSURU NEEDS RIGHT NOW IS...

.....

gulp

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO BE IN MY WAY HERE.

WHY DON'T YOU CONTINUE YOUR CONVER-SATION NEXT DOOR?

BUT RIGHT NOW I'M BUSY.

I'M FINE WITH IT. AFTER ALL, WE KNOW YOU AND YOU CAN BE TRUSTED.

" bang "

toss

605

I'M SORRY...

FOR YESTERDAY.

OKAY.

Thanks.

plop

He's so honest.

I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SINCE THE DAY WE MET.

...

THAT'S RIGHT.

WHY DON'T YOU SIT DOWN FIRST?

HUH?

IT WAS MY FAULT.

NO...

IT WAS MY FAULT FOR BEING TOO EXCITED...

NO, NO.

!

THAT DAY.

I SAID IN THE UNDERGROUND PARKING LOT

THE TRUTH IS, I MEANT EVERY SINGLE WORD...

"BESIDES, IF IT'S ONLY HIM, I CAN DEFINITELY TAKE CARE OF HIM!"

AND

THAT'S WHY

I COULDN'T SAY THE FACT THAT I WAS DYING TO BE WITH YOU.

BUT, I HATE SEEING YOU CRY...

AND I DON'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE...

IT'S JUST THAT... I LIVE FOR MY JOB.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE NO RELATION-SHIP...

nod nod

chuckle chuckle

FUJI-SHIMA-SAN,

SOMETIMES YOU'RE LIKE A SPOILED BRAT, YOU KNOW?

Pull

HUH? WHO'S SMILING?

STOP SMILING!

STOP THAT!

He's so soft...

and adorable.

EVEN SO...

I like it best

when he smiles.

...I LOVE YOU.

PUSH

NGH!

LING!

UM?

grab

ONE MORE TIME
H-HEY!
HE'LL BE FINE!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR BROTHER?

YEAH,
LET'S GO HOME.
DID THE PLAN WORK?
WE BROUGHT JUST ONE BOX FOR HIM TO PRETEND TO MOVE OUT.

whisper
RYUSEI-SAMA,
I'M HERE TO PICK YOU UP.
OKAY.

SO, WE ARE DOING IT, HUH?
I had an inkling that this would happen.

SINCE THE DAY YOU MADE ME OMELET RICE.
What
SINCE WHEN??
WHAT?!
YES.
Squeeze
INDEED.
THAT WAS QUICK...
BY THE WAY, YOU'RE SO WARM.
blush
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO MAKE LOVE TO YOU, FUJISHIMA-SAN.
I UNDER-STAND.
click
click
WE'RE NOT GOING ALL THE WAY TODAY. I'M NOT PREPARED AT ALL.
ANYWAY, I'M TELLING YOU THIS NOW.

HONESTLY... I WANT TO DO MORE THAN THIS, BUT...
JANET TARG

squeeze
Ah!
FUJISHIMA-SAN
...!
UH!
creak
GOJYO
YES.
YES FEL-6 SUC
hoo

clamp
SHIT!
AIA!
I DON'T
WANT TO
BLOW
AIA!

Squeeze!
Ahhh!

WHAT?!

THE MOVING OUT WAS A RUSE?!

YOU REALLY ARE FAST...

YOU ARE, TOO!

sigh

GEEZ.

plunk

I'M SORRY...

fu fu fu fu fu fu

"LET'S PRETEND THAT YOU'RE GOING TO MOVE OUT TODAY."

THAT GUY...

THEN...

BUT I TOLD RYUSEI THAT YOU REJECTED ME AND I CRIED.

WELL, IT WASN'T A COMPLETE LIE. AT LEAST, I WASN'T GOING TO MOVE OUT UNTIL THE NEXT DAY.

Thank you for letting me use the bathroom, by the way.

I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE HIM ANYMORE, SO I HAVE TO WORK FOR MYSELF.
MY FATHER SAID THAT WHAT UNCLE DID WASN'T ENTIRELY BAD.
IT'S OKAY. THANKS TO THAT, I COULD BE HONEST WITH MYSELF.
BUT, DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU ARE GOING TO MOVE EVENTUAL-LY?
YES.
AFTER ALL, RYUSEI IS THE ONE WHO PAYS MY RENT.

From now on, our relationship is going to get deeper and better.

He'll make me excited

and keep my heart fluttering.

END

STOP
You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

Rinjin ni Ai no Te o

[illegible]

Extra

Shinmakoku*
Coordinator/Editor
Wolfram von Bielefeld
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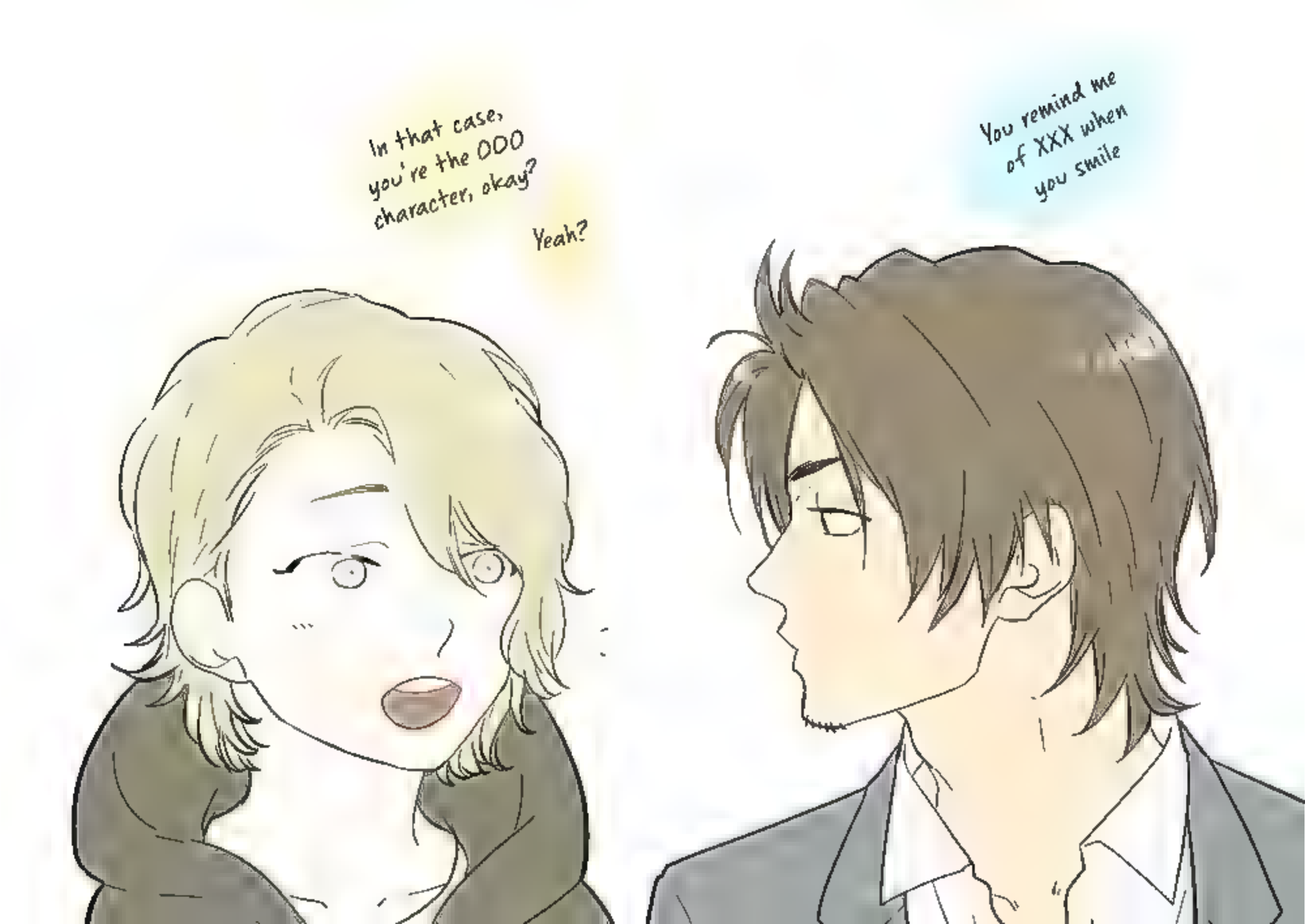
Günter von Kleist
Translator MF
Proofreader
Janazono Jikan


In that case, you're the OOO character, okay?
Yeah?
You remind me of XXX when you smile

bodyguard, so I'd
didn't really need it.

FROM THE BEGINNING, THE PLAN WAS TO CARE FOR MY DAD UNTIL COLLEGE. AFTER THAT, I WOULD HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.

The case involving [illegible] was [illegible].

EVERYTHING WENT ACCORDING TO PLAN.

The little brother said that he retired from his position (and their father seemed to be upset about it).

ALSO, IF SOMETHING HAPPENED, THEY COULD JUST CALL YOU.

WHAT, THE HOLY SHIT?

Gojyo has started to work part-time

HE LOOKS HAPPY...

Then, he stays at home for about half a week

snuggle

snuggle

IT'S SO CRAMPED IN HERE.

The job is to classify and check the goods at a factory in the suburbs.

But he can't even tell which item is flammable and which one is not, so I wonder if he'll be fine

whoosh

!!

rise

CRAMP-ED...

HUH?

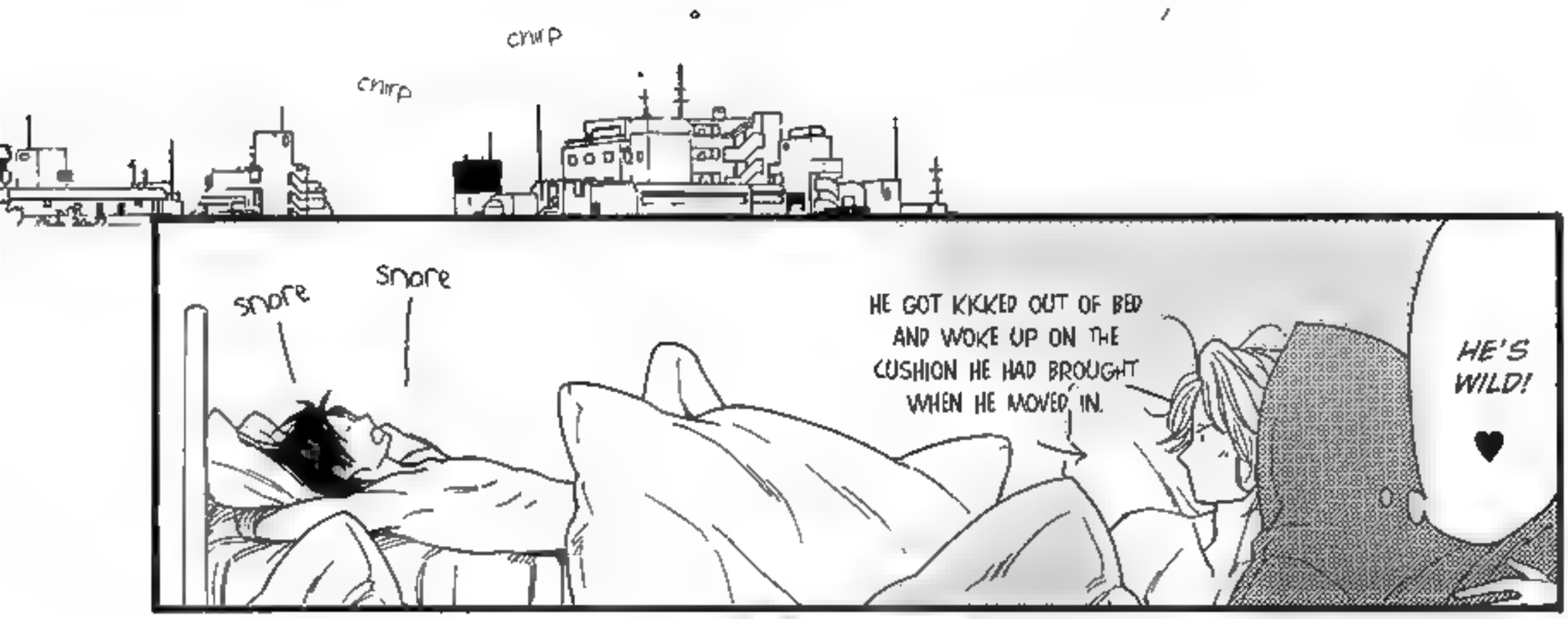
stare

.....

snuggle
'KAY...
ANYWAY, LET'S GO BACK TO SLEEP.
I WOKE UP BECAUSE YOU KEPT TOSSING AND TURNING.
SO YOU WERE AWAKE?
He's cute..
and he makes my heart flutter.
IF YOU KEEP MOVING AWAY, YOU'LL FALL!
THAT'S TOO CLOSE!
THUMP THUMP THUMP

With a sudden twist of fate...

my neighbor has become my housemate.



END

I drew this manga with tears and joy.
It would mean the world to me if you enjoy this manga, too!! (It gives me strength.)

たくさん悩みつつ楽しみつつ描いてました。
楽しんでいただけたら幸いです!!(かいぼい)

中田あきら

Nakata Akira

Special Thanx. 担当様. and you.

BONUS PAGE!

THE COUPLE'S ROUGH SKETCHES.

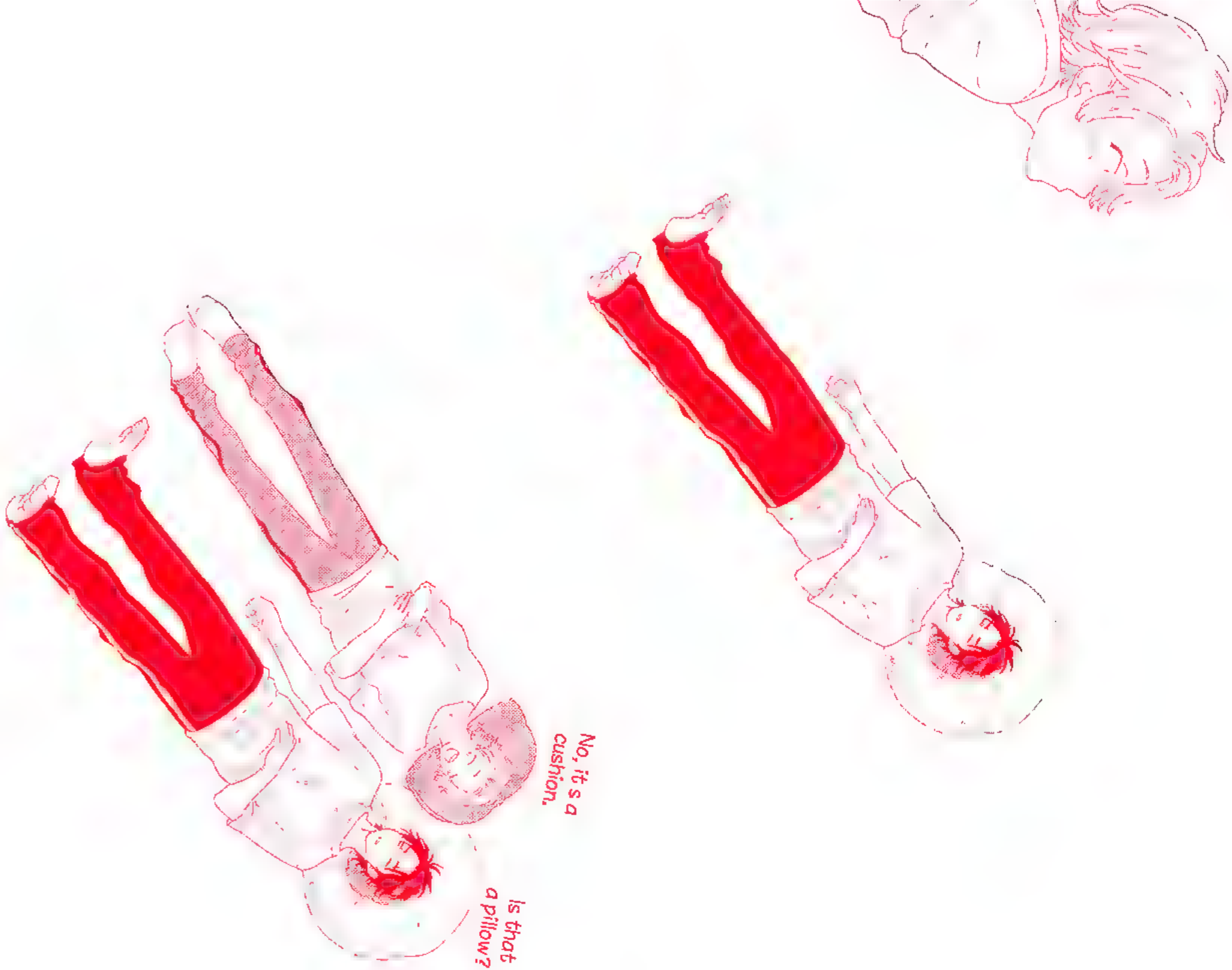
FUJISHIMA

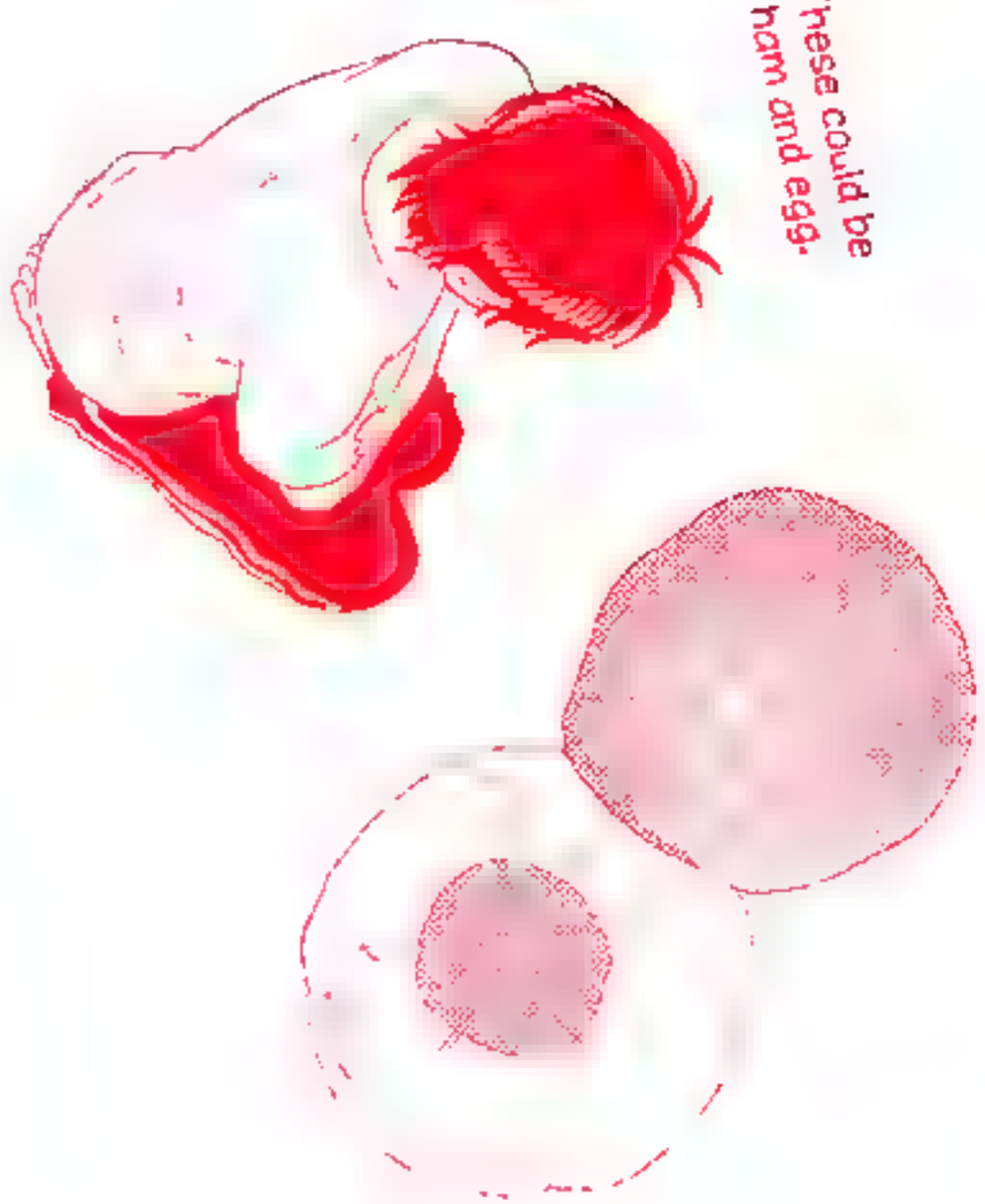
IN HIS INITIAL STAGE, FUJISHIMA HAD SHORT HAIR. AND HE DIDN'T HAVE A HAIRLINE AT THE NAPE OF NECK. HOWEVER, I WANTED HIM TO BE UNTIDY, SO IN THE END, HIS HAIR NDED UP THIS LONG...

GOJYO

ON THE OTHER HAND, GOJYO WAS LONG AND SLENDER FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. ORIGINALLY, HE HAD SHORT HAIR, BUT SHOULD WE KEEP IT AFTER THIS VOLUME?

Thank you for reading all the way here!


Is that a pillow?
No, it's a cushion.



These could be
ham and egg.

初出

Case.1	2018年 8月 リンクス 9月号掲載
Case.2	2018年10月 リンクス11月号掲載
Case.3	2018年12月 リンクス 1月号掲載
Case.4	2019年 2月 リンクス 3月号掲載
Case.5	2019年 4月 リンクス 5月号掲載
Case.6	2019年 8月 リンクス 9月号掲載
同居人に愛の手を	描き下ろし

I GOT THIS!
MY CO-WORKER GAVE THEM TO ME.
APPARENTLY, WE HAD EXTRAS.
struggle struggle
WHERE DID YOU GET IT, ANYWAY?
NO NEED.
I HAVE ONE FOR YOU, TOO, FUJISHI-MA-SAN.
IT'S CUTE
(Being honest.)
IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU...
NO, NOT REALLY, BUT IT'S CUTE!

FUJI-SHIMA-SAN...

IT DOESN'T MATTER.

HOW OLD DO YOU THINK I AM?

NO!!

pant pant

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE LOVE LIKE THIS?

SLAM

BUT YOU'RE GETTING EXCITED!

WHAT?!

IT'S EMBAR-RASSING!

I DON'T MIND, BUT IT'S MORE INTERESTING LIKE THIS, NO?

IF YOU WANT TO DO IT, TAKE THE EARS OFF!

WHY ARE YOU THERE, ANYWAY?!

IT'S RYUSEI.

WALL

DON'T FORGET THAT I'M STILL HERE!!

PROFILE 中田アキラ

● 誕生日 ●
2月21日

● 近 況 ●
LYNX様から6冊目のコミックスです
ありがとうございます!!
楽しんでいただけたら嬉しいです!

COVER DESIGN：
河野直子（kawanote）

LYNX COLLECTION
BIRZ COMICS

隣人に愛の手を

中田アキラ

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アラサー刑事の藤嶋は
引っ越してきたばかりの隣人・五条満と知り合う。

ゴミの捨て方もわからない
どこか浮世離れした五条を
放っておけず、なんだかんだと
面倒を見ていたら、
無邪気に頼ってくる姿が可愛く
思えてきてしまった。

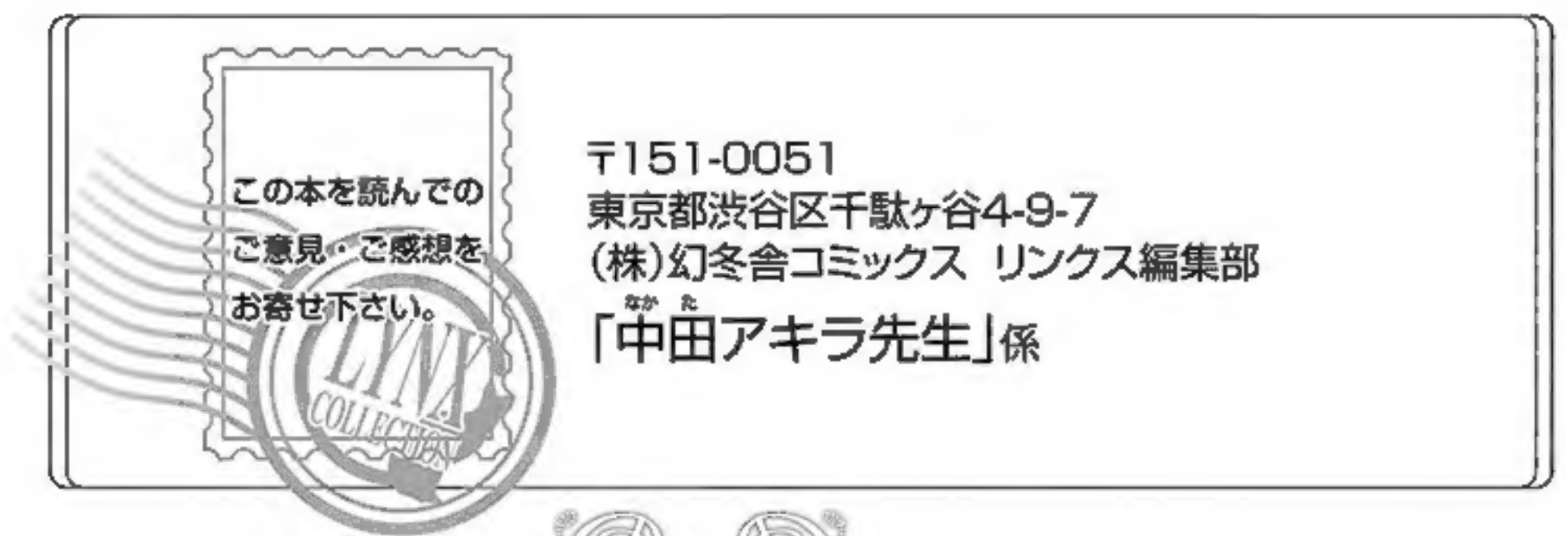
そんな矢先、ブラコンをこじらせた五条の弟・隆盛が現れ、
驚くべき彼らの素性を知ってしまい…!?

LYNX COLLECTION
中田アキラの本

また、ここから!!
年下男子の扱い方
独り占めの条件
リフレイン
不器用なライオン
隣人に愛の手を

BIRZ コミックス

AKIRA NAKATA
LC-0344



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